

3

wave
LISTEN
TO ME!

Hiroaki Samura

LISTEN
TO ME!

wave



HIROAKI

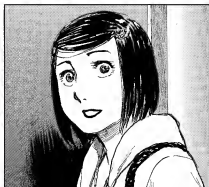
SAMURA

Sapporo, Hokkaido. One night at a bar, Minare Koda has her heartbroken ramblings secretly recorded by a local FM radio station director, Mato, who then airs the audio over the air the following day. Minare storms into the station, only to then be duped by Mato into doing an impromptu talk show explaining her harsh dialogue. As it turns out, the segment was a hit, leading to Minare getting her own show. Her first broadcast, a fictitious play-by-play centered around the murder of an ex-boyfriend who left her, was well received. And now for her second broadcast, an audio drama themed after a burial in the dead of night...



Minare Koda

The protagonist. Kushiro-born Sapporo resident. Currently 25 and single. Her day job is working as a waitress at the soup curry restaurant VOYAGER, but with her termination over the horizon, she's scrambling to make a living as a radio DJ.



Mizuho Nanba

Assistant director at MRS. Currently letting Minare stay with her after she was kicked out of her apartment. Virgin.



Kanetsugu Mato

Director of FM station "Moiwayama Radio" (MRS). Saw potential in Minare's conversational ability and scouted her for the radio business.



Katsumi Kureko

A scriptwriter for MRS and a veteran of the industry. Supposedly goes way back with Mato.



Chuuya Nakahara

An employee at VOYAGER. Supposedly in love with Minare, but invited Makie to stay at his place.



Mitsuo

Minare's audacious ex-boyfriend who swindled her out of 500,000 yen before vanishing without a trace. Recently contacted Minare again to try to patch things up. Fukuoka-born



Makie Tachibana

A beautiful woman working at VOYAGER to help pay for the car accident caused by her brother. Not the most skilled swordsman in the manga, nor a prostitute.

Chapter 17 ◆ [ANAEROBES FEAR NOTHING.] 005

Chapter 18 ◆ [IT'S MY DUTY.] 027

Chapter 19 ◆ [I WANT TO WARM YOU.] 049

Chapter 20 ◆ [THEY DON'T EXIST.] 069

Chapter 21 ◆ [STEAM IS UNCONCEALABLE.] 091

Chapter 22 ◆ [I WANT TO CRY.] 107

Chapter 23 ◆ [I WANT TO SUPPORT YOU.] 129

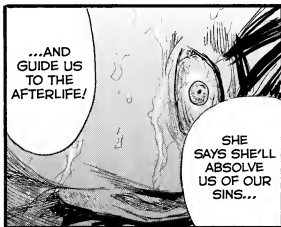
Chapter 24 ◆ [YAKITORI MUST NEVER BE REMOVED.]

Chapter 2 [ANAEPOBES FEAR NOTHING]









*THE FOREST SURROUNDING MT. FUJI, AOKIGAHARA.



...YOU'RE WORRIED THAT SENSEI MIGHT BE SCARY OR SOMETHING, MINA-CHAN?

OH! COULD IT BE...

TALK ABOUT SWITCHING GEARS QUICK...

AHH... HE'S DOWN BELOW LISTENING TO SENSEI'S MUCH APPRECIATED SERMON AS WE SPEAK.

WAIT! I'M STILL NOT PASSED THE SHOCK THAT MY MAN'S A ZOMBIE... AND THAT THE ZOMBIE IS TALKING!

ER... I THINK THERE'S A PRETTY DRAS-TIC DIFFERENCE IN FIGURES BETWEEN THOSE TWO...

DON'T WORRY!

SHE'S A PLUMP WOMAN WITH AN AP-PEARANCE THAT PUTS PEOPLE AT EASE. THINK MITO-CHAN OR MATSUKO.

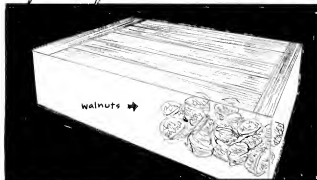
ASAMI MIURA AND MATSUKO

HEL!

YOU'RE ALWAYS SO SELF-CENTERED!

HEY, WAIT ...!

OH, QUIT BEING SO WISHY-WASHY! C'MON!

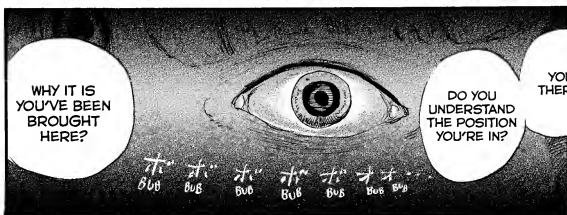








...IS SHE
THE TYPE
WHO'D
LOOK CUTE
IF SHE LOST
WEIGHT?



WHY IT IS
YOU'VE BEEN
BROUGHT
HERE?

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND
THE POSITION
YOU'RE IN?

YOU
THERE.

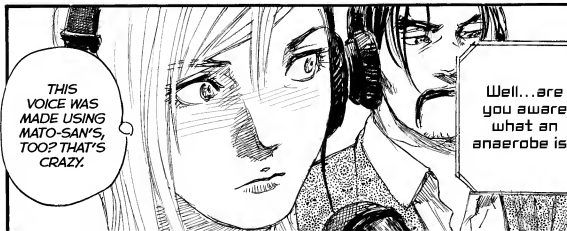


HOW IS IT
WE'RE ABLE
TO BREATHE
UNDER-
GROUND?!

HANG ON
A SEC!
CAN I ASK
SOMETHING
FIRST?

...YES.

YES.



THIS
VOICE WAS
MADE USING
MATO-SAN'S,
TOO? THAT'S
CRAZY.

Well...are
you aware
what an
anaerobe is?



IF YOU'RE GONNA END YOUR EXPLANATION SO LIGHTLY, WHY NOT JUST SAY "BECAUSE SPIRITS" AND BE DONE WITH IT?

WHY BOTHER WITH THAT INFO IN THE FIRST HALF?!

YOUR BODIES HAVE BEEN REMODELED TO MIMIC SUCH PROPERTIES...

BY MEANS OF SPIRITUAL POWERS.

They mostly consist of bacterium.

IT IS A GENERAL TERM FOR ORGANISMS WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE OXYGEN TO REPRODUCE, OR WOULD DIE WHEREVER OXYGEN IS PRESENT.

AS THEY DO NOT REQUIRE OXYGEN, THEY GENERATE ENERGY THROUGH ANAEROBIC RESPIRATION AND LACTIC FERMENTATION.



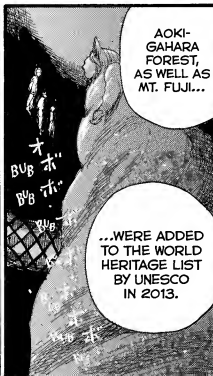
I SHALL PURIFY YOUR KARMA AND GUIDE YOUR SOULS TO NEW VESSELS.

NOW...

DIVULGE THE KARMA YOU'VE ACCUMULATED DURING YOUR LIVES.



IT IS A SACRED MOUNTAIN WHICH HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF WORSHIP SINCE ANCIENT TIMES.



AOKI-GAHARA FOREST, AS WELL AS MT. FUJI...

...WERE ADDED TO THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST BY UNESCO IN 2013.



HUH...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

If those
aimless
souls are
left adrift
in the
forest
unpur-
fied...

Nonetheless,
every year,
over 100 peo-
ple are said to
commit suicide
in Rokigahara.

This of
course
includes
the context
of nature
worship...

WAS THE
UNESCO BIT
REALLY NEC-
ESSARY?

...however, it is
also due to the
existence of
the spirit path,
a road on which
spirits travel.

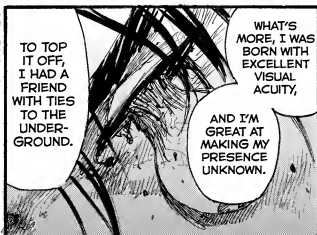
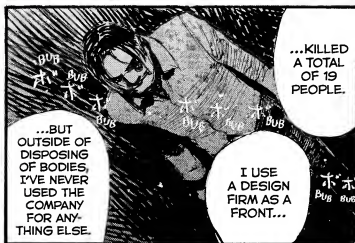
...IT IS SAID
THEY'LL BLOCK
THE SPIRIT PATH
LIKE A BAD CASE
OF CONSTIPATION
AND EVENTUALLY
CAUSE MT. FUJI
TO EXPLODE.

OH, HUSH,
YOU... ON THE
2CH OCCULT
BOARD AND
SUCH.

WHERE'D
YOU HEAR
THAT?!

HUH?!







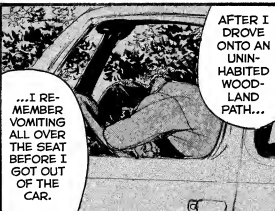
I RAN
BOTH OF
THEM OVER
WITH MY
CAR.

THE TAR-
GET WAS AN
EXECUTIVE
OUT FOR A
WALK IN THE
SNOW WITH
HIS GRAND-
DAUGHTER.



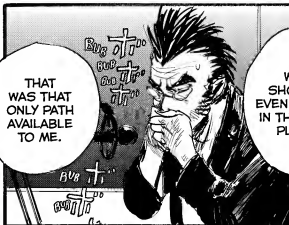
...BUT IN
THE END, I
COULDN'T, AND
I KEPT KILLING
PEOPLE FOR
20 YEARS.

THAT
WOULD'VE
BEEN MY
CHANCE TO
TURN MY BACK
ON THE UNDER-
GROUND FOR
GOOD...



...I RE-
MEMBER
VOMITING
ALL OVER
THE SEAT
BEFORE I
GOT OUT
OF THE
CAR.

AFTER I
DROVE
ONTO AN
UNIN-
HABITED WOOD-
LAND
PATH...

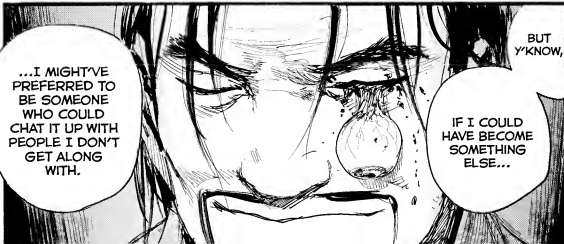


THAT
WAS THAT
ONLY PATH
AVAILABLE
TO ME.

WHAT
SHOULD I
EVEN REGRET
IN THE FIRST
PLACE?



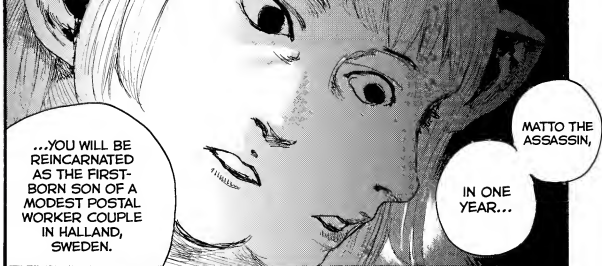
I HAVE
NO RE-
GRETTS.



...I MIGHT'VE
PREFERRED TO
BE SOMEONE
WHO COULD
CHAT IT UP WITH
PEOPLE I DON'T
GET ALONG
WITH.

BUT
Y'KNOW,

IF I COULD
HAVE BECOME
SOMETHING
ELSE...



...YOU WILL BE REINCARNATED AS THE FIRST-BORN SON OF A MODEST POSTAL WORKER COUPLE IN HALLAND, SWEDEN.

MATTO THE ASSASSIN,

IN ONE YEAR...



SECOND?
NO. FOR YOU...



I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE WHEN I SHOWED UP FOR WORK TODAY.

I'M NOT A FAN OF THE COLD.

OH, WELL. NO COMPLAINTS HERE.



WHAT A WEIRD SOUND...

...THIS IS THE 3740TH TIME.

NOW, THEN. MITSUO, LAY BARE YOUR LIFE'S KARMA.

...I ALWAYS
SEEM TO END
UP MAKING
WOMEN
ANGRY.

...IS THAT
NO MATTER
WHAT I DO
OR HOW I
ACT...

MMM... I
DUNNO IF
THIS COUNTS
AS KARMA
OR NOT.

AFTER
BEING
MUR-
DERED
LIKE
THIS...

BUT
TAKE
TODAY
FOR EX-
AMPLE.

I'M JUST
TRYING TO
LIVE MY
LIFE,

BUT
FOR ME,
WHAT I
FIND
STRANGE
...

OR
HOW YOU
SHOULDN'T
LIE TO
YOUR-
SELF.

...YOU KNOW
HOW PEOPLE
ALWAYS SAY
YOU SHOULD
LIVE HON-
ESTLY,

I
MEAN...

...FOR THE
FIRST TIME,
IT MADE
ME THINK,
"OH, MAN.
I MUST'VE
MADE HER
REALLY
ANGRY,
HUH?"

...THEY ALSO
MEAN WITH-
OUT CAUSING
TROUBLE
FOR OTHER
PEOPLE.

I don't have
anything to
do now.

YEAH,
I GET
IT. WHEN
THEY SAY
THINGS
LIKE
THAT...

BUT IF
YOU'RE ALWAYS
HONEST AND
DO WHAT YOU
WANT, THERE'LL
BE TIMES WHEN
YOU END UP
HURTING OTH-
ER PEOPLE,
RIGHT?



I
THINK
THAT
I...

...MIGHT
JUST BE
MORE OUT
OF SYNC
THAN
MOST.



WE'RE
TAUGHT
THAT WE
SHOULDN'T
TREAT
OTHERS
HOW WE
WOULDN'T
WANT TO BE
TREATED,

BUT
THE WAY
THAT'S
INTER-
PRETED
VARIES
FROM
PERSON
TO PER-
SON.



BUT
Y'KNOW
...

...THERE ARE
PEOPLE OUT
THERE WHO
DON'T UNDER-
STAND HOW TO
ACCOMMODATE
OTHER PEOPLE
OR TO WHAT
DEGREE.



I NEVER
KNOW WHAT
I'VE DONE
WRONG IN
THE FIRST
PLACE.

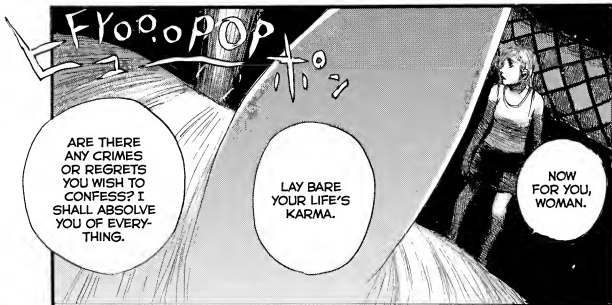
SO I
THINK I'LL
PROBABLY
MAKE THE
SAME
MISTAKE
AGAIN.

EVEN
THOUGH I
CAN APOLO-
GIZE FOR THE
TROUBLE I'VE
CAUSED, I'M
UNABLE
TO LEARN
FROM IT.



IF NOT,
THEN I'D
RATHER
JUST STAY
DEAD.

IF I'M TO BE
REBORN...I'D
REALLY LIKE IT
IF THAT DEFECT
COULD BE COR-
RECTED, IF EVEN
A LITTLE BIT.

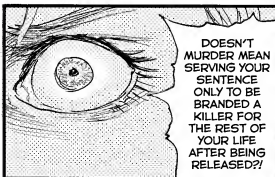




IS IT
REALLY
OKAY...

...AND
START OVER
IN THE NEXT
LIFE AS IF
NOTHING
HAPPENED?

...TO
JUST
QUIETLY
HAVE MY
SINS PAR-
DONED...



DONES'T
MURDER MEAN
SERVING YOUR
SENTENCE
ONLY TO BE
BRANDED A
KILLER FOR
THE REST OF
YOUR LIFE
AFTER BEING
RELEASED?!



OVER A
MEASLY
500,000
YEN!

I
KILLED
A MAN
TODAY!

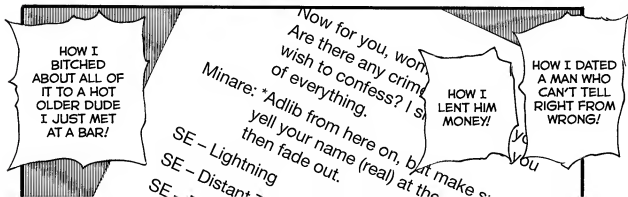
*APPROX. ¥5,000



I REGRET
AS NATU-
RALLY AS I
BREATHE...

REGRETS,
YOU SAY?

TRY EVERY
MINUTE OF
EVERY HOUR
OF EVERY
DAY.



HOW I
BITCHED
ABOUT ALL OF
IT TO A HOT
OLDER DUDE
I JUST MET
AT A BAR!

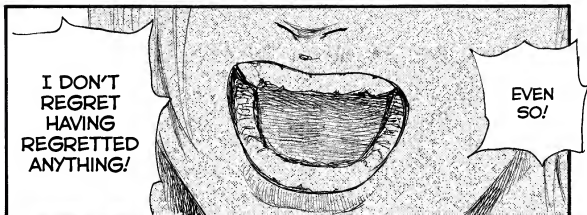
Now for you, won't
Are there any crimes
wish to confess? I speak
of everything.

HOW I
LENT HIM
MONEY!

HOW I DATED
A MAN WHO
CAN'T TELL
RIGHT FROM
WRONG!

Minare: *Adlib from here on, but make sure
yell your name (real) at the
then fade out.

SE - Lightning
SE - Distant
SE -





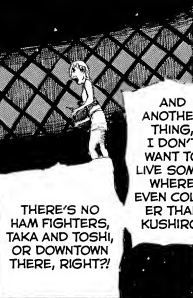
SEND
ME BACK
TO THE
AOKI-
GAHARA
FOREST
OF JAPAN!

ENOUGH
ABOUT
SWEDEN!
OR ANY
OTHER
COUNTRY
FOR THAT
MATTER!



THEY DO
HAVE THE
WORLD'S
MOST
STINKY
CANNED
GOOD.

SERIOUS-
LY?! WELL,
MAYBE I'LL
GO THEN...
IS THAT WHAT
YOU EXPECT
ME TO SAY?!



THERE'S NO
HAM FIGHTERS,
TAKA AND TOSHI,
OR DOWNTOWN
THERE, RIGHT?!

AND
ANOTHER
THING,
I DON'T
WANT TO
LIVE SOME-
WHERE
EVEN COLD-
ER THAN
KUSHIRO!

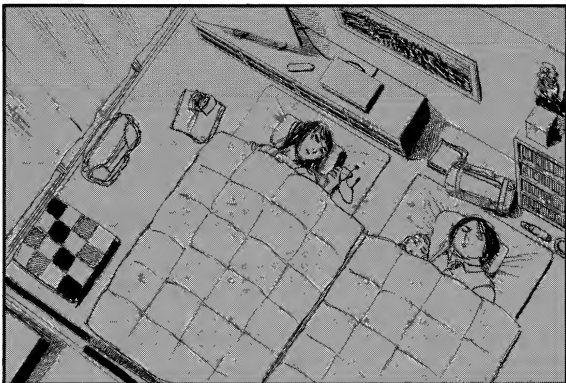


UNTIL THE
DAY I DIE, I'LL
CONTINUE
TO BE THE
AIMLESS
JAPANESE
WOMAN,
MINARE
KODA!

IF YOU
DON'T,
THEN I'LL
KILL YOU,
TOO!

I DON'T
GIVE A
DAMN IF
MT. FUJI
BLOWS
UP!







Chapter 18 「IT'S MY DUTY.」

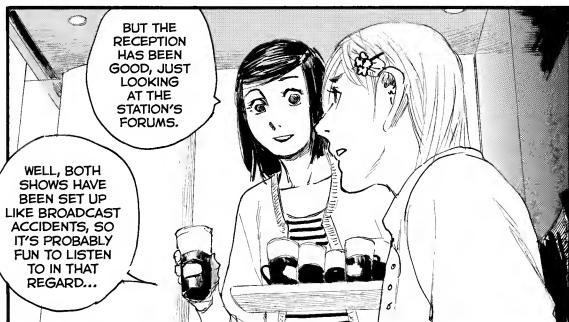


...IS THAT
FOR SOME
REASON
OR OTHER,
KUREKO-SAN
SEEMS TO
HAVE IT OUT
FOR ME.

HAVING DONE
TWO SHOWS
NOW, ONE
REALIZATION
I'VE HAD...



...OUT
FOR ME,
I SAY!





WHAT DO YOU THINK THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILL FOR A RADIO PERSONALITY TO HAVE IS?

MINARE.



...WHAT'S MOST CRUCIAL IS RESPON-SIVENESS.



plus they aren't really skills.

THAT APPLIES TO ANY JOB THAT INVOLVES VOICE.

FOR PERSONALITIES...



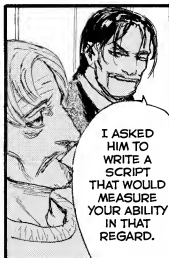
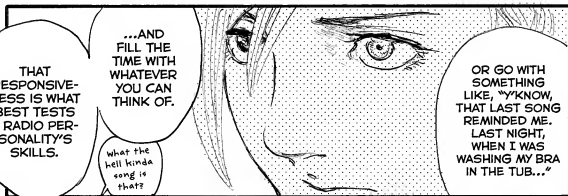
HUH? ARTICULATION OR VOLUME CONTROL, I GUESS?



IF YOU MESS UP ON THE AIR AND DELAY IN PUTTING ON THE NEXT SONG.

FOR EXAMPLE,

RESPON-SIVENESS?





WHY,
THANK
YOU.

WELL,
NOT LIKE
IT MATTERS
TO THE LIS-
TENERS.



...MADE ME
THINK YOU
CAPTURED
HOW MUCH
OF A SCUM-
BAG HE IS
VERY WELL.



BITS AND
PIECES FELT
OFF, OF
COURSE...

...BUT THE
WAY HE'D FALL
BACK ON HIS
OWN SELFISH
REASONING
WHEN WE WERE
TALKING ABOUT
SOMETHING
THAT SHOULD'VE
BEEN COMMON
SENSE...



WHAT
DID YOU
THINK OF MY
ASAMA GOD
PERFOR-
MANCE?

KODA-
SAN,
KODA-
SAN.



WAIT,
THAT
WAS YOU,
CHISHIRO-
SAN?!

AHH.
THE
HAG...?



YOU WERE
ABLE TO WRITE
HIM BECAUSE
YOU SHARE
THAT PART
IN COMMON,
DON'T YOU?

QUIT
TRYING
TO MAKE
ME LOOK
BAD.



YOU KNOW THAT SOLO BOOTH WE USE FOR NEWS? I WAS RESPONDING FROM THERE WHILE LISTENING TO YOU.



PLUS, I WAS SPEAKING LIVE.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, PARTS OF IT WERE LIKE RESPONSES TO MY ADLIBBING...

SERIOUSLY?!



HUH? 'COURSE NOT.

THAT WASN'T MATO-SAN'S VOICE?!

I MEAN, WE DO HAVE SOFTWARE TO GENDER SWAP VOICES, BUT...



AND I DIDN'T DO IT BECAUSE I WANTED TO.

JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, I'M A MIXER.

UGH... JUST END ME.

WHAT'RE YOU MAKING ENGINEERS DO?!

MINA-CHAA-AN AND WHAT-NOT...

GEH!

THEY SAID MY VOICE WAS TOO DEEP TO MAKE BELIEVABLE.

BY THE WAY...

...MITSUO'S VOICE WAS MADE USING KOMOTO'S THERE.



BUT WHAT MADE THEM CONSENT TO DO IT IN THE END...

AND CHISHIRO SEEMED FREE SINCE HER POST-SHOW PLANS WERE CANCELED.

WELL, I'M THE ONE WHO PRESSURED KOMOTO TO DO IT.



COULD
YOU REALLY
CALL THAT
CONSENT...?

...WAS
BECAUSE
THEY FELT
SOMETHING
AMAZING
ABOUT YOU
AND YOUR
SHOW.



'ZAT
SO?!

NO, IT
AIN'T
ABOUT
LOVE.
THIS IS
WORK.



TO THINK
THAT I
WAS THIS
LOVED...

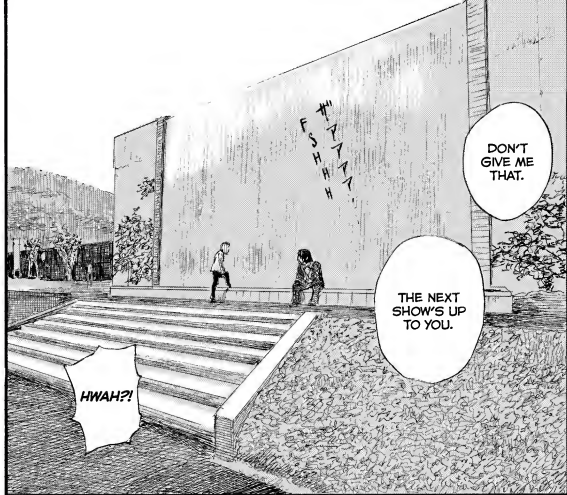
I
HAD NO
IDEA...



HUH?

WHAT ARE
YOU GONNA
MAKE ME DO
NEXT WEEK?

SO,
MATO-SAN.





DESPITE COMPOSING THEM WITH AN EMPHASIS ON IMPACT, SHOWS THAT TAKE LISTENERS OUT OF THE EQUATION, LIKE OUR FIRST AND SECOND, DEVIATE FROM RADIO'S PRIMARY PURPOSE IN THAT REGARD.

ARE FIRST DRAWN IN BY THE RADIO PERSONALITY'S TREATMENT OF THEIR LISTENERS.

AS OPPOSED TO PEOPLE TO TUNE IN TO THEIR FAVORITE CELEBRITY'S SHOW, FOLKS WHO JUST LIKE RADIO...



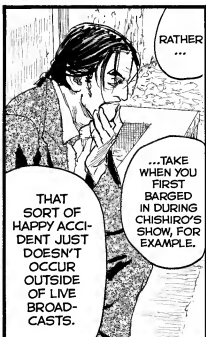
Y'KNOW, I'VE WONDERED SOMETHING FOR A WHILE NOW.

MINARE...



WANNA TRY MAKING THOSE SITUATIONS HAPPEN MORE?

I CAN SEE MYSELF GETTING SUED WITHIN FIVE SHOWS.



RATHER ...

...TAKE WHEN YOU FIRST BARGED IN DURING CHISHIRO'S SHOW, FOR EXAMPLE.

THAT SORT OF HAPPY ACCIDENT JUST DOESN'T OCCUR OUTSIDE OF LIVE BROADCASTS.



ACTUALLY... ASIDE FROM HAVING IT PLAY ALL THE TIME AT WORK, I NEVER LISTEN TO IT AT HOME.

OH, BUT I DO LISTEN TO WHATEVER MIZUHO-CHAN PUTS ON.

WA HA HA HA!

...HAVE YOU EVER LISTENED TO RADIO BY CHOICE?



OR
BADGER
TAJI.

ASIDE FROM
TAKA AND
TOSHI...SHUTA
UESUGI, I
GUESS.

ARE
THERE ANY
CELEBRITIES
YOU LIKE?

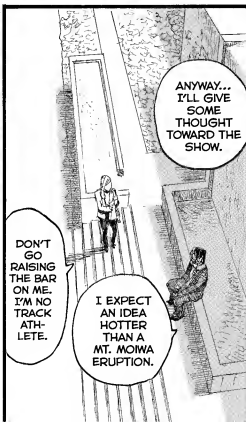


GET AN IDEA
OF HOW MUCH
MORE FREE-
DOM THERE
IS ON RADIO
COMPARED
TO TV.

GREAT.
LISTEN TO
THE NO HUNT-
ING BADGER
HOUR ON HCB
TONIGHT AT
MIDNIGHT.



THEN
AGAIN
...



DON'T
GO
RAISING
THE BAR
ON ME.
I'M NO
TRACK
ATH-
LETE.

I EXPECT
AN IDEA
HOTTER
THAN A
MT. MOIWA
ERUPTION.

ANYWAY...
I'LL GIVE
SOME
THOUGHT
TOWARD THE
SHOW.



OKAY.
I'LL TUNE
IN...

OH,
CRAP! I'VE
GOTTA GET
TO WORK!



THE FACT
THAT SHE
DOESN'T
KNOW THE
FIRST THING
ABOUT RADIO
MIGHT BE
HER BIGGEST
STRENGTH.

HA HA...



YOU NEVER
APOLOGIZE
FOR BEING
LATE... ARE
YOU SICK
OR SOME-
THING?!

HUH?!

SORRY
I'M LATE.

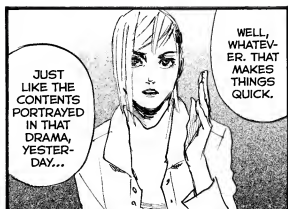
MORNIN'.



I TUNED
IN, TOO.

BUT OF
COURSE.

DID YOU
LISTEN TO
MY SECOND
SHOW, NAKA-
HARA-KUN?



JUST LIKE THE CONTENTS PORTRAYED IN THAT DRAMA, YESTERDAY...

WELL, WHATEVER. THAT MAKES THINGS QUICK.



...AND BEEN REBORN ANEW!

...I, TOO, HAVE DIED...



That's the kinda impression I'd expect from someone who just watched year one in the north...

SERIOUSLY?

EVEN AS THE ONE NARRATING, INSIDE I WAS THINKING, "WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON IN THIS PIECE OF SHIT SHOW?"

I LIKED HOW LOCAL IT FELT.

*A JAPANESE BLOCKBUSTER THAT WAS VERY POORLY RECEIVED.



IF I WAS MINARE KODA UNTIL YESTERDAY, THEN FROM TODAY ON...

I'M SAYING ...

...PARDON?



USING DVDS BECAME TOO MUCH OF A HASSLE...

TO PUT IT SIMPLY... OH, I KNOW!

IT'S LIKE UPGRADING FROM 8.1 TO 10!



THERE SHE GOES AGAIN...



MINARE KODA!

...I AM NEO ...

*REFERENCE TO THE OPERATING SYSTEM, WINDOWS



ANYWAY, I
JUST FEEL
LIKE I'M NOT
THE SAME
PERSON I
USED TO BE.

THE
PLACEBO
EFFECT?

AFTER
SEEING THAT
LUDICROUS
SCENARIO TO
THE END...WHAT
DO YOU CALL
IT? THE POWER
OF WORDS?



I HEADLINE
MY OWN SHOW
STARTING
NEXT WEEK.

DESPITE
THAT, MY IN-
COME'S STILL
UNSTABLE,
SO I HAVE A
TON TO THINK
ABOUT.

NOW THAT I
THINK ABOUT
IT, I CAN'T
LET MYSELF
GET BOGGED
DOWN BY
THAT IDIOT
FOREVER.



MITSUO!

TO BE
MORE
SPECIFIC
...



...didn't
you refuse
and just
leave?

As I
seem
to recall,
when
given
the
option
to be
re-
born.

...MUST
MEAN
SHE CAN'T
ERASE
THOSE
FEELINGS
OTHERWISE.

THE FACT
THAT SHE'S
BOTHERING
TO DECLARE
THAT OUT
LOUD...



...FROM NOW
ON, I WILL
ACT AS IF I
NEVER HAD
AN EX-BOY-
FRIEND IN
THE FIRST
PLACE!

THEREFORE,
I HEREBY
DECLARE
THAT...

...SINCE I'VE
DELETED HIS
EMAIL AD-
DRESS AND
BLOCKED HIS
NUMBER...



...COULD BE
INTERPRETED
AS HER SAYING,
"I'M READY TO
RESPOND TO
YOUR FEELINGS,"
RIGHT?

*OPTIMISTIC RELATIONSHIP DELUSIONS



All
right.

M'kay.
I'm gonna
go get
changed.

...THE FACT
THAT SHE
MADE THAT
DECLARATION
TO MY FACE...

THEN
AGAIN...



HUH?!

...WOULD
YOU BE IN-
TERESTED
IN GOING
ON THE AIR
WITH ME?



THIS IS
JUST AN IDEA,
BUT...

YES!
HOW
MAY I
ASSIST
YOU?!



OH,
YEAH.

NAKA-
HARA-
KUN,
GOT A
SEC?



THAT BEING
SAID, I'M SHORT
ON TIME, SO
I THOUGHT
MAYBE I COULD
BORROW YOUR
HELP...

...AND DO A
SEGMENT ON
UNEXPECTED
SPICES USED IN
THE SHOP, OR
SECRET MENU
ITEMS PEOPLE
CAN ORDER...



"...IT MIGHT
BE UNCOUTH
OF ME TO
DRAFT UP
A PLAN FOR
THE SHOW
EVERY TIME."

YOU
SURE YOU
CAUGHT
THE RIGHT
NUANCE OF
WHAT HE
SAID?

WITH MY
THIRD
BROAD-
CAST
COMING
UP, THE
DIRECTOR
FINALLY
TOLD ME,

"WITH
SOMEONE
OF YOUR
TALENT..."





NO
WAY!

I APPRE-
CIATE THE
THOUGHT,
BUT THINK
ABOUT IT...

OH, THAT'S
A GOOD IDEA.
KODA-SAN
HAS A LOT
OF FANS,
AFTER ALL.

WHILE WE'RE
AT IT, WE COULD
ALWAYS THROW
SOMETHING UP
ON VOYAGER'S
HOMEPAGE,
TOO.



It seems
you want to
die, hm?

BUT! IF I
LEAVE ANY
TRACE OF
USING THE
HOMEPAGE
TO LOOK
FOR SHOW
IDEAS...

...IT'LL
ALL
HAVE
BEEN
FOR
NOTH-
ING!

SOUNDS
TO ME LIKE
IT WASN'T
FROM THE
GET-GO.

MY CAUSE
WILL NO
LONGER
BE JUST!

AND
HOPE-
FULLY GET
HIM TO
RETHINK
FIRING
ME.

THIS
CHICK'S
HONEST
TO A
FAULT...

...BUT
ALSO TO
SCRATCH
THE OWN-
ER'S BACK
WHILE HE'S
IN THE
HOSPI-
TAL...

THE
ONLY
REA-
SON I'M
WORKING
HERE...

...PARTLY
BECAUSE I
CAN'T LIVE
OFF OF RA-
DIO ALONE,
SURE...



...BUT
CONSIDER-
ING HOW
FAR THINGS
HAVE COME
ALONG...

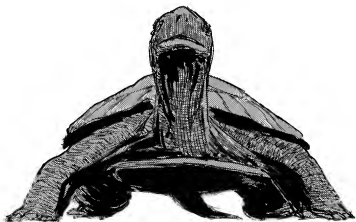
AT ANY RATE,
MINARE-SAN. I
KNOW I SAID
ALL THAT IN THE
BEGINNING...



ALL YOU NEED TO BE IS A
COORDINATOR WHO CAN
SKILLFULLY ARRANGE SUCH
PIECES INTO A MOSAIC
MEANT TO PLEASE
YOUR AUDIENCE.

THE EXPERIENCES OF YOUR
FRIENDS, THE WORKS OF
ARTISTS, THE WORDS OF
THE LISTENERS...

RADIO HOSTS ARE
DIFFERENT FROM
COMEDIANS. THERE
IS NO NEED FOR YOU
TO MAKE PEOPLE
LAUGH ON YOUR
EFFORTS ALONE.

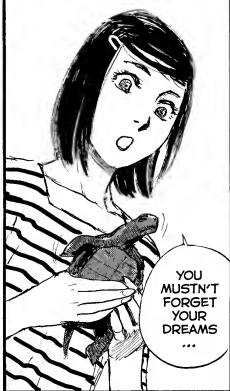




OKYUHON
IS SEVEN!

HOW OLD
IS THAT
TURTLE?

I'D
PREFER MY
LECTURES TO
COME FROM
SOMEONE
OLDER THAN
ME...



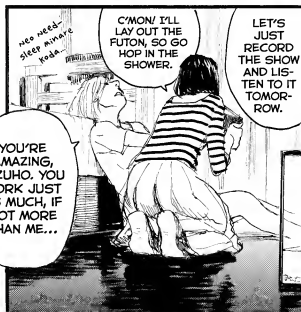
YOU
MUSTN'T
FORGET
YOUR
DREAMS
...



NOW THAT I
THINK ABOUT
IT, I GOT UP
AT NINE, SOLD
CURRY ALL DAY,
WAS ON THE
RADIO UNTIL
FOUR IN THE
MORNING...

GUHHH...
THIS IS
ROUGH.

...THEN WENT
BACK TO THE
STATION AT NINE
FOR A REVIEW
MEETING,
THEN BACK TO
SELLING CURRY
UNTIL 11 AT
NIGHT...



nee need-
sleep minare
koda...

C'MON! I'LL
LAY OUT THE
FUTON, SO GO
HOP IN THE
SHOWER.

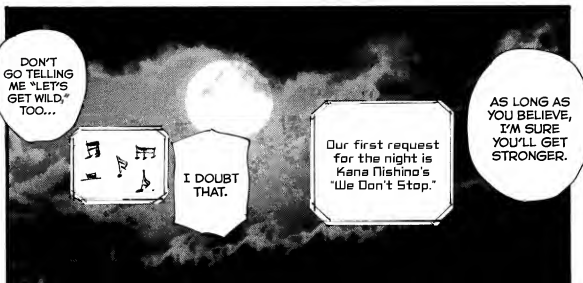
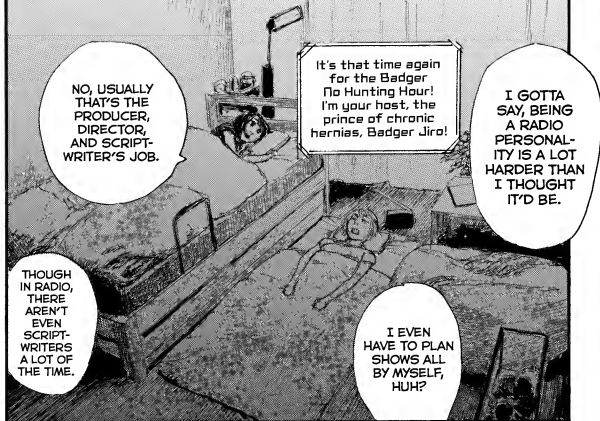
LET'S
JUST
RECORD
THE SHOW
AND LIS-
TEN TO IT
TOMOR-
ROW.

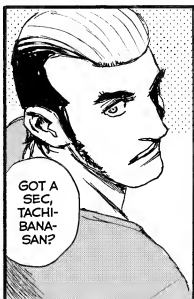
YOU'RE
AMAZING,
MIZUHO. YOU
WORK JUST
AS MUCH, IF
NOT MORE
THAN ME...

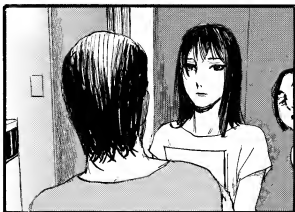
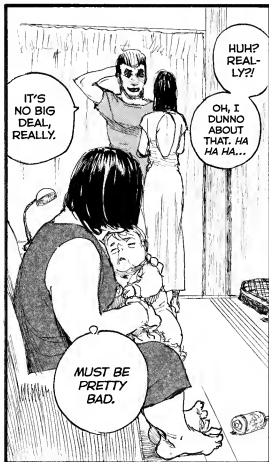


I CAN
BARELY
KEEP
MY EYES
OPEN!

...AND NOW
HERE I AM
GETTING
READY TO LIS-
TEN TO THE
RADIO UNTIL
ONE IN THE
MORNING.

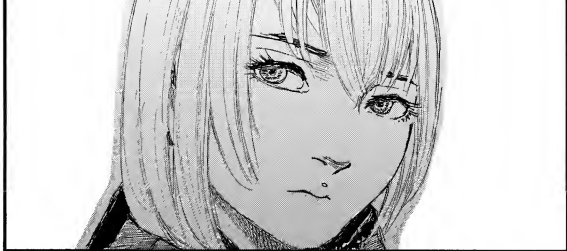






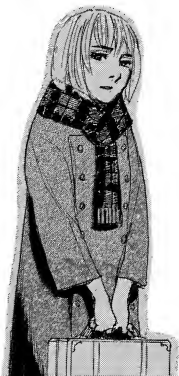
Chapter 2 ♡ I WANT TO WARM YOU ♡





I'VE
NEVER SEEN
YOU LOOK
SO DOWN
BEFORE.

...I'M
SUR-
PRISED.



YOUR
COMRADE IN
ARMS IS GOING
OFF TO WAR...
I WISH YOU'D
SEE ME OFF
WITH A SMILE.

IT'S NOT
LIKE THIS
IS GOODBYE
FOREVER.





I'LL BE
SURE TO
WATCH...
WHAT WAS
IT AGAIN?

I'M EXCITED.
I'VE NEVER
BEEN OVER-
SEAS BEFORE.



IT'S ON BBC,
BUT I HEARD
IT'S GOING TO
BE AIRED IN
JAPAN SOON,
TOO.

OH, YEAH.
MONTY
PYTHON.



IT'S THE
NEWEST VER-
SION THAT JUST
CAME OUT. IT
MIGHT BE A
LITTLE HARD FOR
YOU TO USE.

OKAY.
I SHOULD
GET GOING.

YOU'D BETTER
USE THAT, YOU
HEAR? I SPENT
ALL OF MY NEW
YEAR'S BONUS
ON IT.



THE REASON
I LOOK SO
DOWN...

AS USUAL,
YOU NEVER
UNDERSTAND
HOW PEOPLE
FEEL.



...AND
THAT YOU'RE
EVENTUALLY
GOING TO FALL
VICTIM TO
A TERRIBLE
ACCIDENT
AT YOUR
DESTINATION.

...IS BECAUSE
I KNOW THAT
THIS IS A
DREAM FROM
DECADES
AGO...



PLEASE STOP
SENDING THINGS
I CAN'T FIT IN
THE FRIDGE...
AHH, SO IT WAS
DAD? MAN, THIS
IS WHY SHOW-
ERA GEEZERS
ARE SUCH A
PAIN.

YEAH! THE
SALTED
SALMON!

FOUR
WHOLE
FISH, NO
LESS!

...HUH?
YOU SENT
MEAT TWO
YEARS AGO?
REALLY?
OH...

CHILLED
MUTTON OR
SOMETHING
WOULD'VE
BEEN WAY
BETTER!

...I CAN'T
DUMP THEM
ON MY NEIGH-
BORS WHEN
I KNOW THEY
WON'T FIT IN
THE FRIDGE,
RIGHT?

MY COWORKER
SAID HE'D TAKE
ONE, BUT... NO!
LIKE I JUST
SAID...



WHERE
WAS I?
ANYWAY,
NO MORE
SALMON,
OKAY?

OH,
AND
...

...THERE
WAS THIS
HUGE
LUMP
OF PACKING,
AND WHEN I
OPENED IT
UP...



YEAH,
THANKS. THE
DVD PLAYER,
TOO, IF YOU
DON'T MIND.

WANT ME
TO HOOK
UP THE
TV?



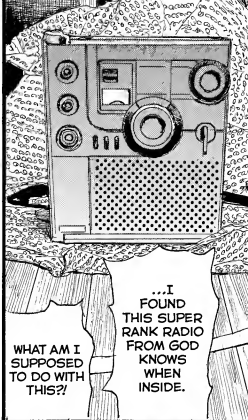
FORGET ABOUT THAT.

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

I HEARD YOU'RE WORKING IN RADIO NOW.

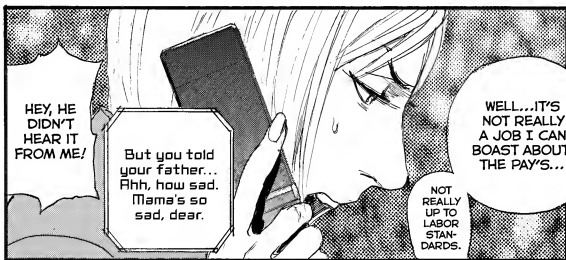
DON'T ASK ME. I HAVE NO IDEA WHY.

AHH. YOUR FATHER INSISTED ON SENDING IT.



...I FOUND THIS SUPER RANK RADIO FROM GOD KNOWS WHEN INSIDE.

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO WITH THIS?!



HEY, HE DIDN'T HEAR IT FROM ME!

But you told your father...
Ahh, how sad.
Mama's so sad, dear.

WELL...IT'S NOT REALLY A JOB I CAN BOAST ABOUT. THE PAY'S...

NOT REALLY UP TO LABOR STANDARDS.



MINARE.



HO HO HO...

AHH. THAT SOUNDS LIKE HIM.



Did your father say anything?

WHAT WAS IT...? "THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS BEING A LAUGHING-STOCK," OR SOMETHING.



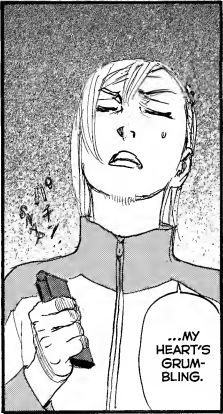
LIVE IN A WAY
THAT WILL MAKE
OTHERS PROUD
OF YOU. UNDER-
STAND?

YOU MUSTN'T
TAKE ANY-
THING THAT
LOWLIFES SAY
SERIOUSLY.



I HOOKED
UP THE TV
AND DVD
PLAYER,
BUT YOUR
REMOTE'S
OUTTA BAT-
TERIES.

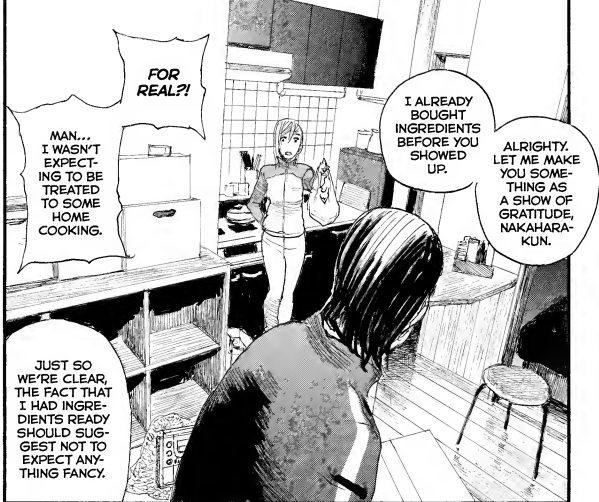
OH,
THANKS.
I'LL BUY
SOME
LATER.



...MY
HEART'S
GRUM-
BLING.



AHH,
SCREW
IT! TIME
FOR DIN-
NER!



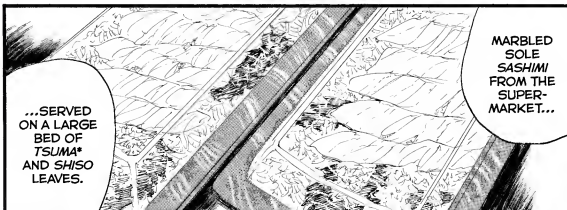
FOR REAL?!

MAN...
I WASN'T
EXPECTING
TO BE
TREATED
TO SOME
HOME
COOKING.

I ALREADY
BOUGHT
INGREDIENTS
BEFORE YOU
SHOWED
UP.

ALRIGHTY.
LET ME MAKE
YOU SOME-
THING AS
A SHOW OF
GRATITUDE,
NAKAHARA-
KUN.

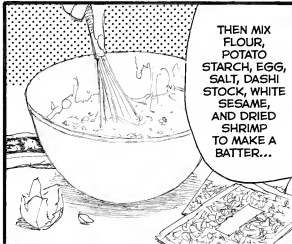
JUST SO
WE'RE CLEAR,
THE FACT THAT
I HAD INGRE-
DIENTS READY
SHOULD SUG-
GEST NOT TO
EXPECT ANY-
THING FANCY.



...SERVED
ON A LARGE
BED OF
TSUMA*
AND SHISO
LEAVES.

MARBLED
SOLE
SASHIMI
FROM THE
SUPER-
MARKET...

*A TYPE OF GARNISH COMMONLY SERVED WITH SASHIMI.

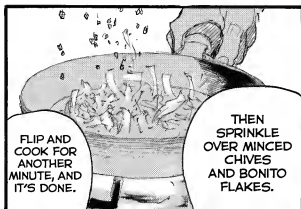


THEN MIX
FLOUR,
POTATO
STARCH, EGG,
SALT, DASHI
STOCK, WHITE
SESAME,
AND DRIED
SHRIMP
TO MAKE A
BATTER...

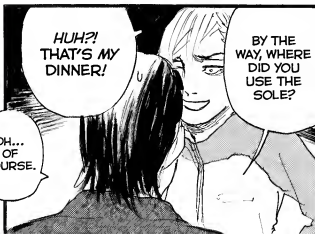
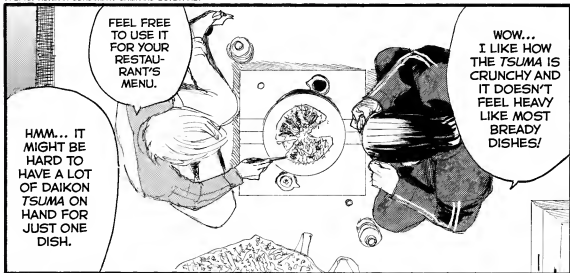


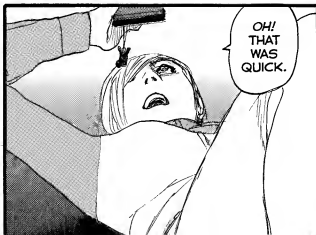
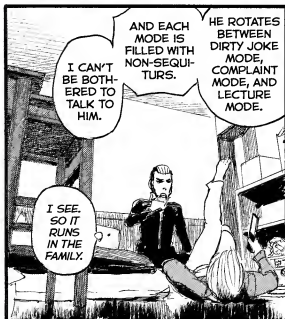
The more
tsuma, the
better.

FIRST,
WE CHOP
UP THE
VEG.



*A SPICY KOREAN CONDIMENT CHILI AND SOYBEANS.

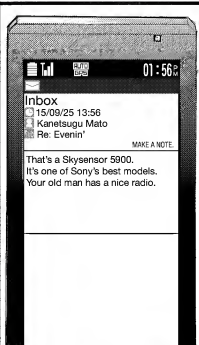




Sent Mail

15/09/25 13:56
Kanetsugu Mato
Re2: Evenin'

Can you elaborate further
on the "nice" part?



Sub Re3: Evenin'

MAKE A NOTE.

Later. We're about to go on the air.
Give me a call sometime after 10.



SHE'S
HEART-
LESS...

...BUT
WOULDN'T IT
BE SICK IF IT
TURNS OUT I
CAN SELL IT
FOR LIKE A
MILLION YEN
OR SOME-
THING?



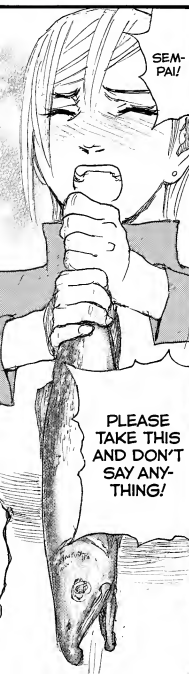
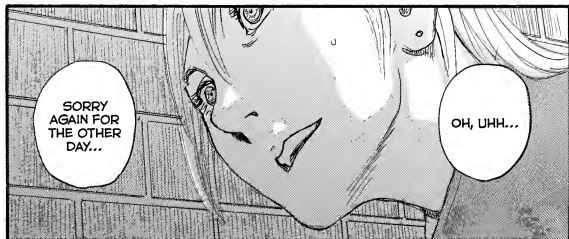
NAH, THE
OPPOSITE.
I'M NOT EVEN
THE LEAST BIT
INTERESTED
IN IT.

I WANT TO
LEAVE IT OUT
ON THE NEXT
NON-COMBUS-
TIBLE TRASH
DAY...

MAN,
DON'T
LEAVE
ME
HANG-
ING.

YOU
REALLY
LIKE THAT
RADIO,
HUH?





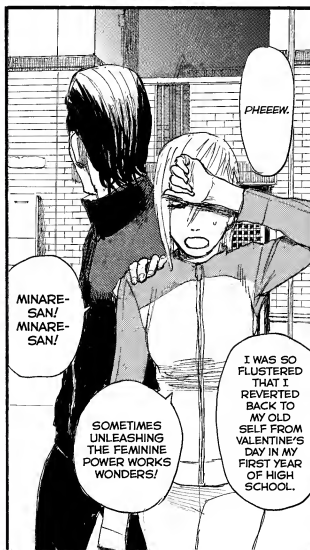


THANK
YOU.

...I SEE.



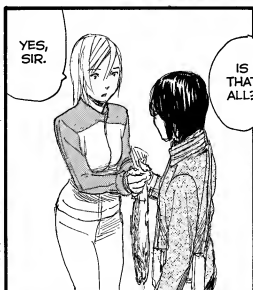
PERFECTLY SUSPICIOUS



MINARE-
SAN!
MINARE-
SAN!

SOMETIMES
UNLEASHING
THE FEMININE
POWER WORKS
WONDERS!

I WAS SO
FLUSTERED
THAT I
REVERTED
BACK TO
MY OLD
SELF FROM
VALENTINE'S
DAY IN MY
FIRST YEAR
OF HIGH
SCHOOL.



YES,
SIR.

IS
THAT
ALL?



IF
THAT'S
IT!



YOU, TOO? I
WAS THINKING
THE SAME
THING.

HUH?!



DIDN'T THAT
GUY SEEM
ODD TO YOU?



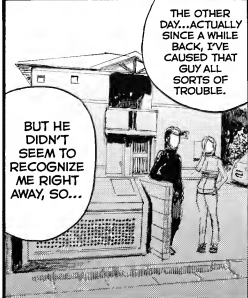
How many
gay dudes
do you
think are
around you?

NOOOO
WHAT I
MEANT.

HE MUST
BE GAY!

...TO BE
HONEST,
I'M KINDA
SHOCKED!
AM I REALLY
THAT FOR-
GETTABLE?

LOOKS-WISE,
I THOUGHT
I WAS AT LEAST
A BARGAIN
MIREI KIRI-
TANI*.



THE OTHER
DAY...ACTUALLY
SINCE A WHILE
BACK, I'VE
CAUSED THAT
GUY ALL
SORTS OF
TROUBLE.

BUT HE
DIDN'T
SEEM TO
RECOGNIZE
ME RIGHT
AWAY, SO...

*A JAPANESE ACTRESS, MODEL, AND NEWS ANCHOR.

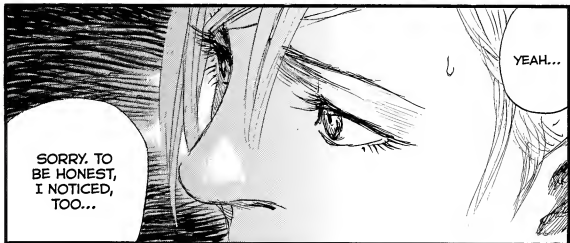
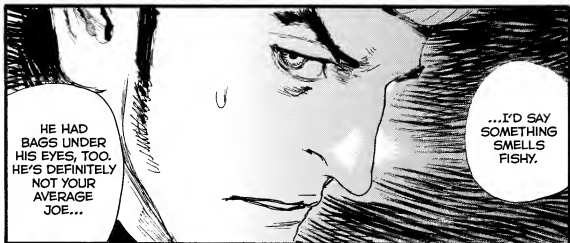


THAT
WAS THE
STENCH OF
DEATH...



...DIDN'T
YOU NOTICE
THE SMELL
COMING
FROM HIS
ROOM?

WHEN HE
OPENED THE
DOOR...





BUT GIVE
ME A CALL
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS,
OKAY?
I DON'T
CARE HOW
LATE IT IS.

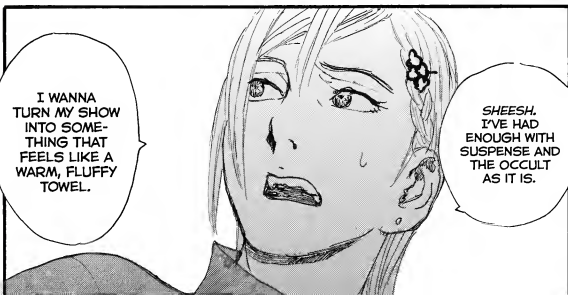
WELL...IF IT
REALLY CAME
DOWN TO IT,
YOU COULD
PROBABLY
KNOCK A GUY
LIKE HIM OUT
BY YOURSELF,

...IF HE
RESPONDED
WITH SOME-
THING LIKE,
"HUH?! I'D
SAY YOU
REEK MORE,"
THEN IT'D ALL
BE OVER.



AND
BEFORE
THAT...

...BUT I
DIDN'T WANT
TO SAY ANY-
THING RASH,
SINCE HE'S
HELPED ME
OUT IN THE
PAST.

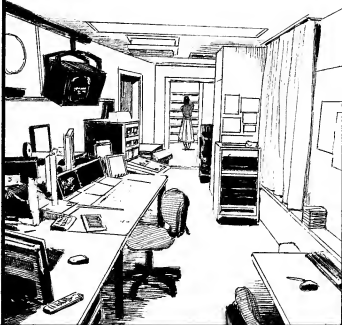


I WANNA
TURN MY SHOW
INTO SOME-
THING THAT
FEELS LIKE A
WARM, FLUFFY
TOWEL.

SHEESH.
I'VE HAD
ENOUGH WITH
SUSPENSE AND
THE OCCULT
AS IT IS.



MIZUHO-
CHAN.



I BROUGHT
A CARE
PACKAGE
FOR THE
TROOPS.

MINARE-
SAN!



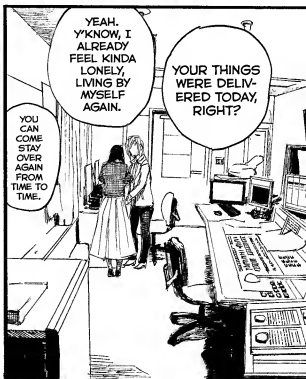
YOU MEAN
YOUR PAGE?
IT SURE IS.
JUST A SEC.

OH, YOU
DON'T
HAVE TO
BRING IT
UP.



SAY...IS
YOU-KNOW-
WHAT
DONE
YET?

THE
THING I
ASKED
FOR THE
OTHER
DAY...



YEAH.
Y'KNOW, I
ALREADY
FEEL KINDA
LONELY,
LIVING BY
MYSELF
AGAIN.

YOUR THINGS
WERE DELIV-
ERED TODAY,
RIGHT?

YOU
CAN
COME
STAY
OVER
AGAIN
FROM
TIME TO
TIME.



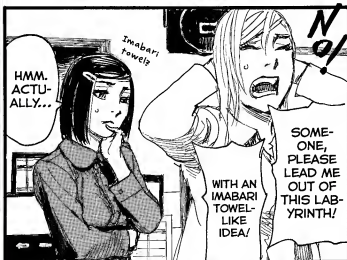
WELL,
THIS IS
THE FAX IN
QUESTION.

THEY
WON'T
COME
IN THAT
QUICK-
LY!



JUST TELL
ME IF ANY
SHOW IDEAS
HAVE COME
YET.

Do ho ho...



HMM.
ACTU-
ALLY...

Imabari
Towel

WITH AN
IMABARI
TOWEL-
LIKE
IDEA!

SOME-
ONE,
PLEASE
LEAD ME
OUT OF
THIS LAB-
YRINTH!



OH,
BUT...

HUFF

IT'S NOT
A SHOW
PROPOSAL,
BUT WE DID
RECEIVE A
WEIRD FAX
ADDRESSED
TO YOU...



WHO CARES
ABOUT THAT!
JUST SHOW
ME!

WHAT
SHOULD I
DO? MATO-
SAN TOLD ME
NOT TO MAKE
THINGS EASY
FOR YOU.

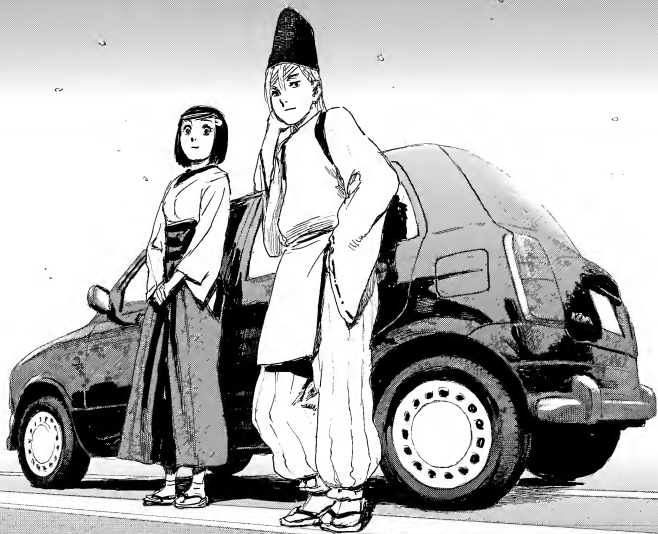
IT'S HIS
FAULT I'M AT
MY WIT'S END
RIGHT NOW!

TO The Woman on the radio at
3AM. last Saturday, PLEASE
HELP me I'm ~~scared~~ cursed,
I thought YOU of all people
might understand my plight.
My GIRLFRIEND died, but she
has yet to forgive ME. She's going
to DRAG me to the ~~hell~~ Netherworld
at this rate. ~~How~~ did the woman
on the radio manage to return
to this realm??
I'm scared half to death.
Please tell me how YOU managed
to come back.

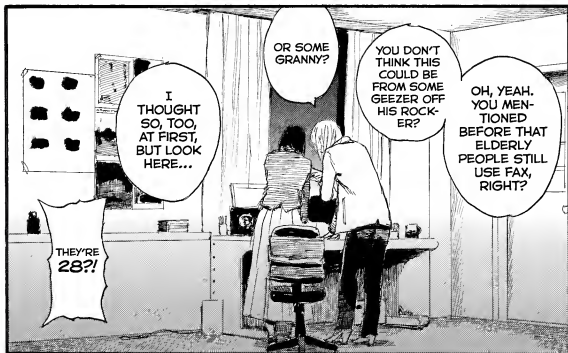
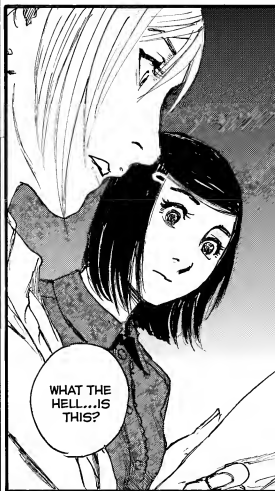
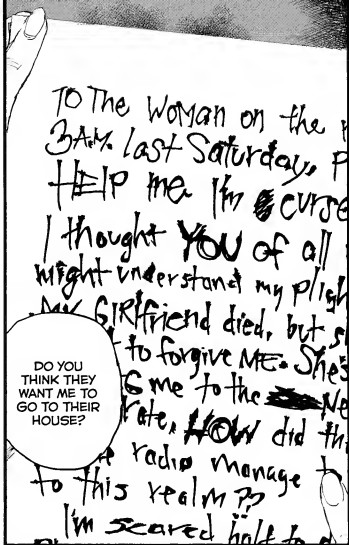
SHE'S COMING as I write this.
Contact info: KITA-KU
PHONE #

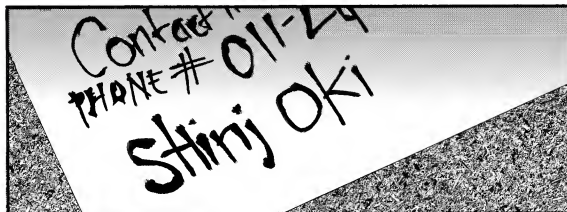
OCCULT
SHIT
AGAIN?

...THE
FUCK?



Chapter 20 「THEY DON'T EXIST.」







IF WE DON'T
THINK THINGS
THROUGH AND
JUST KEEP
TAKING SHOTS
IN THE DARK,
THEN WE'RE
BOUND TO
DRAW IN SOME
CRAZIES!
LOOK!

THIS IS
WHAT I'M
TALKING
ABOUT,
MATO-
SAN!



WHAT'S
UP?



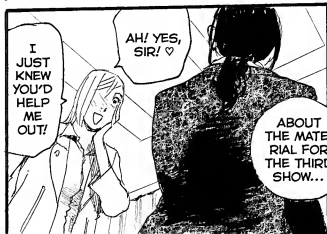
HM? I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU
DROPPED BY.



...HMM.

OH, MAN,
THIS IS WILD.
HA HA HA!

The woman on the radio of
last Saturday please
to me. I'm a ~~man~~ ~~man~~
thought you of all people
might understand my plight.
My boyfriend did not like
to take me to the ~~the~~ ~~the~~
on the radio. Now I'm
to this radio. I'm
I'm scared that I'll
please tell me how you
are coming as I wait



I
JUST
KNEW
YOU'D
HELP
ME
OUT!

AH! YES,
SIR! ♥

ABOUT
THE MATERIAL
FOR THE THIRD
SHOW...



MI-
NARE.

IF THAT
KINDA
REACTION
FLEW,
THEN WE
WOULDN'T
NEED
POLICE...



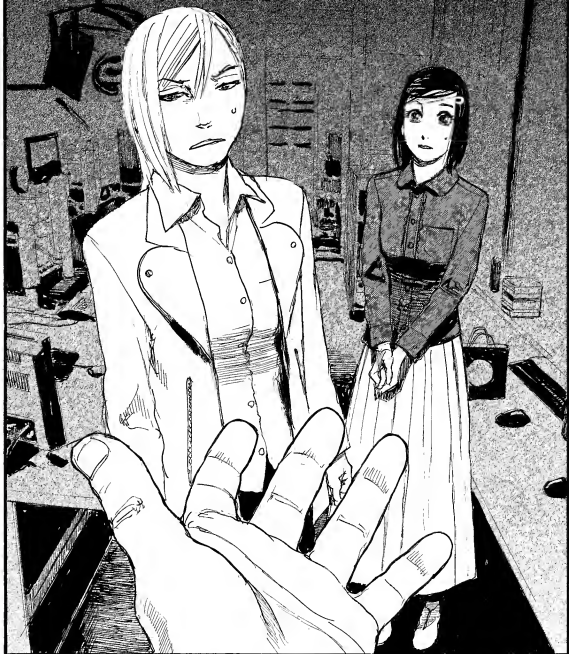
...IT DOESN'T
HAVE TO BE
LIVE.

Y'KNOW...



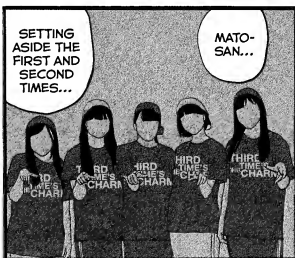
IT'S NOT
EVERYDAY YOU
GET A CHANCE TO
HEAR SOMEONE'S
GENUINELY TER-
RIFIED VOICE ON
THE RADIO.

GO TO THE
ADDRESS
OF WHOEVER
SENT THIS FAX
AND RECORD
THE WHOLE
THING.



...THEN IT
WILL, WITH-
OUT A DOUBT,
BECOME AN
OCCULT-
FOCUSED
SHOW, YOU
KNOW!

...IF WE
DO THIS
A THIRD
TIME...



SETTING
ASIDE THE
FIRST AND
SECOND
TIMES...

MATO-
SAN...

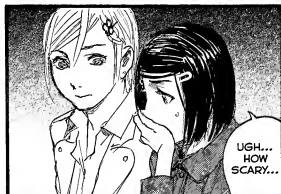


NANBA,
GO WITH
MINARE AS
HER ASSIS-
TANT, WILL
YOU?

JUST LEAVE
THE CDS
YOU'RE GONNA
PLAY AND I'LL
TAKE CARE OF
THE REST.

HUH?!
ARE YOU
SURE?

OH, BUT
I HAVE
CRUISE
NINE COM-
ING UP...



UGH...
HOW
SCARY...



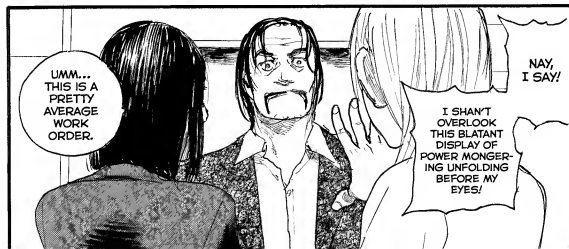
OH, AND
IF MINARE
ABSO-
LUTELY
REFUSES
TO GO...

I'D
REALLY
LIKE TO
HAVE THIS
AS MATE-
RIAL.

...SORRY,
BUT COULD
YOU GO
TALK TO
THE GUY BY
YOURSELF?



TO TURN
A BLIND
EYE IS A
COWARD'S
GAMBIT...



UMM...
THIS IS A
PRETTY
AVERAGE
WORK
ORDER.

NAY,
I SAY!

I SHAN'T
OVERLOOK
THIS BLATANT
DISPLAY OF
POWER MON-
GERING
UNFOLDING
BEFORE MY
EYES!



TH-THANKS...

TOO
EASY...

MATO-SAN, I
REALLY THINK
YOU SHOULD
TRY DYING
FROM SOME
UNKNOWN STD
SOMETIME.
SERIOUSLY.

Remind me
when you
made that
vow?



I UNDER-
STAND.
LET US GO
TOGETHER,
MIZUHO.

I FORGOT
THAT I VOWED
TO PROTECT
YOU NO
MATTER WHAT
HAPPENS.



...BUT
YOU'RE STILL
PRACTICALLY AN
AMATEUR. JUST
DIVE IN HEAD-
FIRST AND WE'LL
BE THERE TO
CATCH YOU.

ANY
MESS
A NOVICE
RADIO PER-
SONALITY
MAKES
WHILE OUT
ON LOCA-
TION...

COULD
POTENTIALLY
MAKE FOR
GOOD MA-
TERIAL FOR
A FUTURE
SHOW WITH
A LITTLE
TWEAKING.

WELL, AS
SOMEONE WHO
WORKS FOR THE
STATION, SAYING
THIS COULD
ONLY BE SEEN
AS ME BEING
SOFT...



...BUT
TV VIEW-
ERS ARE
"GUESTS"
...

...WHILE
RADIO
LISTENERS
ARE "PAR-
TICIPANTS."



MINARE, I
FEEL LIKE I'VE
GONE OVER
THIS MULTIPLE
TIMES AL-
READY...

Woman on the radio at last... PLEASE

SACRIFICING ONESELF FOR ENTERTAINMENT IS THE SIGN OF A PRO.

IT'S THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GUY WHO SENT THIS MIGHT BE LEGITIMATELY DANGEROUS!

THIS ISN'T ANYTHING LIKE THE RADIO PERSONALITIES I KNOW...

ANY SANE COMPANY CHOOSE TO IGNORE THIS, RIGHT?!

curse
of all p
my plight
d, but sh
forgive me
me to
he, f
radio
this yea



...BUT WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT ISN'T COMPLAINTS.

UHH...I GET THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP ME RELAX...



SHOULD ANYTHING HAPPEN TO YOU...

BELIEVE IN THE DIRECTOR WHO FELL FOR YOU AT FIRST SIGHT.



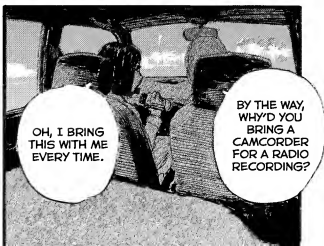
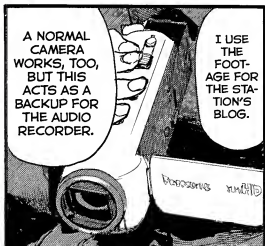
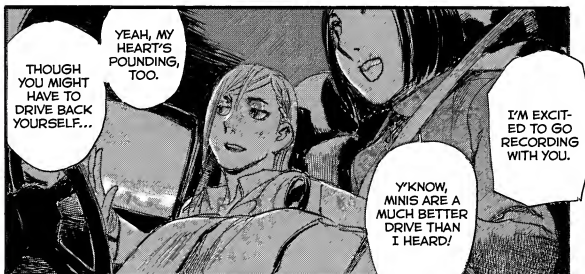
MINARE...

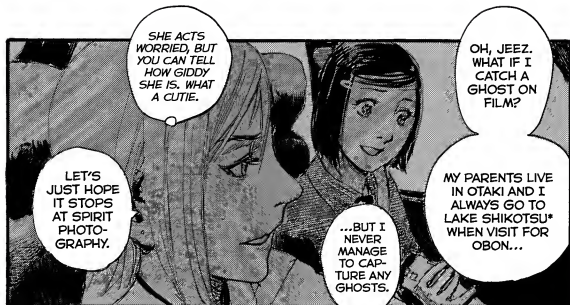


A-HA.

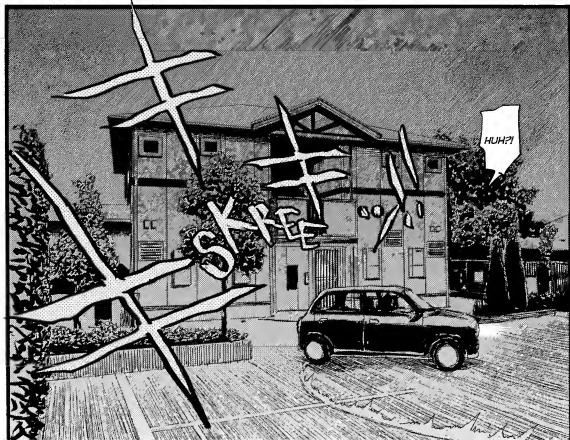
...I'LL PAY YOUR BAIL IN FULL.

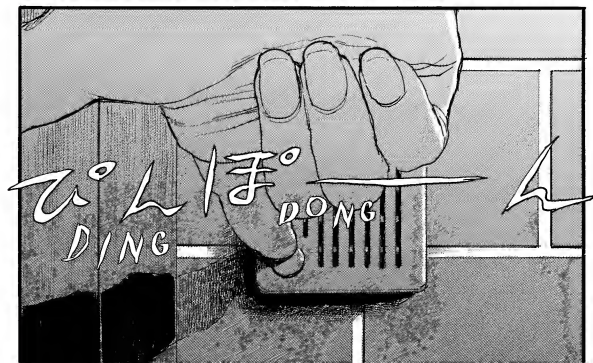
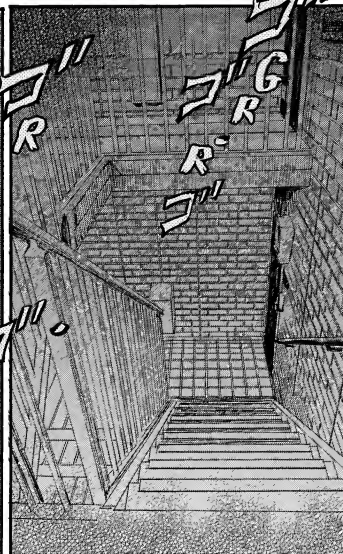
SO IT'S ASSUMED THAT I'LL BE ARRESTED. I SEE.

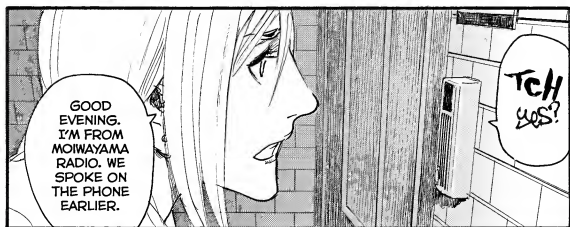
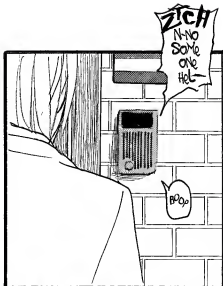
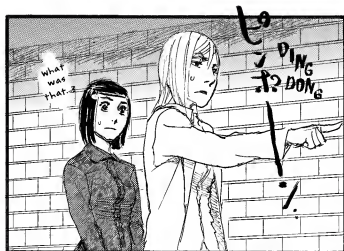




*A FAMOUS GHOST SITE.









I WAS
SENT BY
THE RADIO
STATION TO
TAKE CARE OF
YOUR
GHOST
PROBLEM!

HEYA!
WHAT'S IT
BEEN, SIX
HOURS?

POLICE
AND
SALMON?

POLICE...
AND SALMON
LADY.

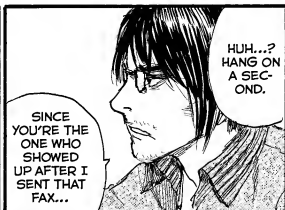
YOU'RE
THAT...



That re-
minds me, I
think you
introduced
yourself as
such when
I called the
police.

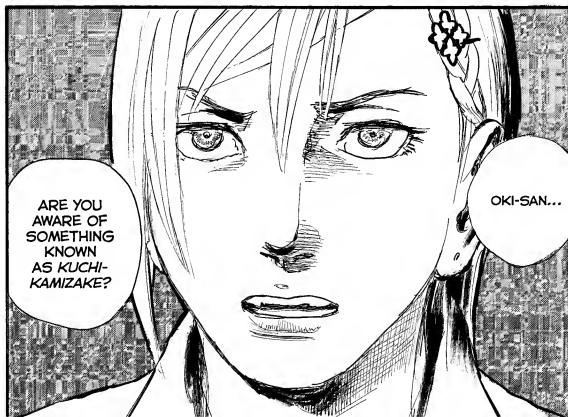
...DOES
THAT MEAN
YOU'RE
MINARE
KODA...

...THE
WOMAN
FROM
THE
RADIO?



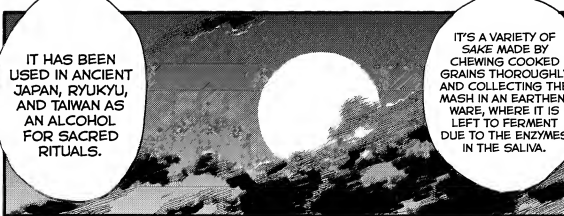
HUH...?
HANG ON
A SEC-
OND.

SINCE
YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO
SHOWED
UP AFTER I
SENT THAT
FAX...



ARE YOU
AWARE OF
SOMETHING
KNOWN
AS KUCHI-
KAMIZAKE?

OKI-SAN...



IT HAS BEEN
USED IN ANCIENT
JAPAN, RYUKYU,
AND TAIWAN AS
AN ALCOHOL FOR SACRED
RITUALS.

IT'S A VARIETY OF
SAKE MADE BY
CHEWING COOKED
GRAINS THOROUGHLY
AND COLLECTING THE
MASH IN AN EARTHEN-
WARE, WHERE IT IS
LEFT TO FERMENT
DUE TO THE ENZYMES
IN THE SALIVA.



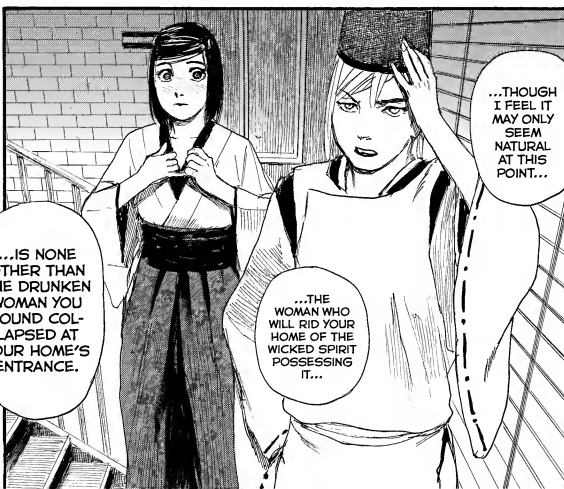
THAT
BEING
SAID,
OKI-
SAN...

"RITUAL,
SAKE,
WOMEN,"
THREE
INSEPARA-
BLE COM-
PONENTS.



...WAS
ALWAYS A
WOMAN,
EITHER
SHRINE
MAIDENS
OR VIR-
GINS.

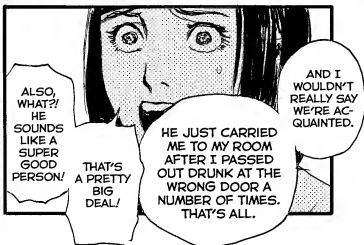
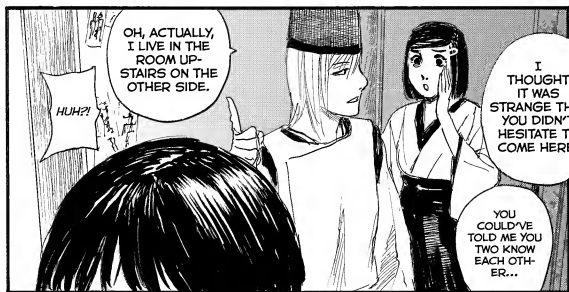
WHAT'S IN-
TRIGUING
IS THAT
THE ONE
TASKED
WITH MAK-
ING THE
SAKE...

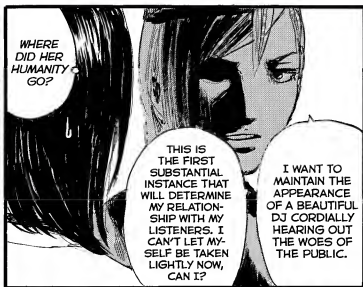


...IS NONE
OTHER THAN
THE DRUNKEN
WOMAN YOU
FOUND COL-
LAPSED AT
YOUR HOME'S
ENTRANCE.

...THE
WOMAN WHO
WILL RID YOUR
HOME OF THE
WICKED SPIRIT
POSSESSING
IT...

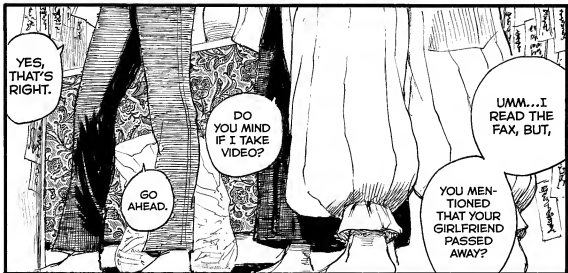
...THOUGH
I FEEL IT
MAY ONLY
SEEM
NATURAL
AT THIS
POINT...







WHOA...



YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT.

DO
YOU MIND
IF I TAKE
VIDEO?

GO
AHEAD.

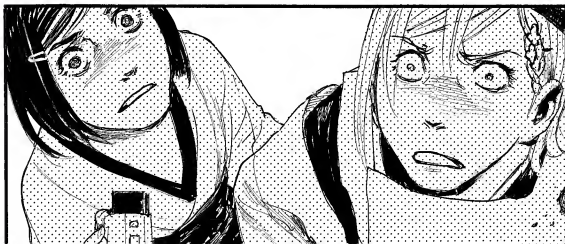
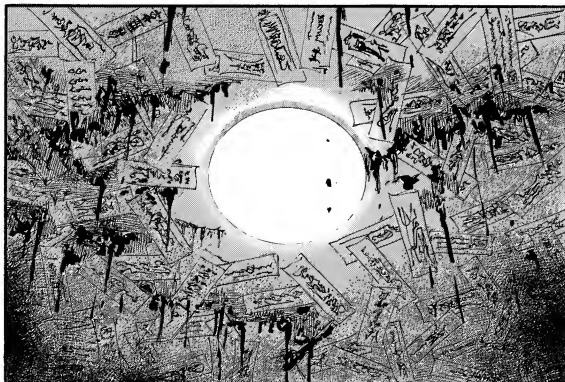
UMM...I
READ THE
FAX, BUT,

YOU MENTIONED
THAT YOUR
GIRLFRIEND
PASSED
AWAY?



...IT
WILL
COME
SOON.

BUT YOU
KNOW...





EEEEK!

WHAA?!
HOLD UP!

UWAHHH!
RITSUKOOO!

WHAT?
HUH?!



MINARE-
SAN, THIS
IS...

well,
this is a
pickle.

STRAIGHT
INTO PANIC
MODE WITH
NO EXPLA-
NATION...!



I DIDN'T
WANT TO
LOSE
YOU,
EITHER!

FOR-
GIVE
MEEE!

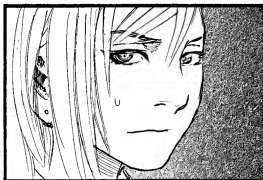


I'LL TAKE
BIZARRE
SITUATIONS
OVER THE
OCCULT
ANY DAY.



...THE
SMELL OF
ROTTING
MEAT?!

IT'S BEEN
BOTHERING
ME SINCE WE
CAME INSIDE,
BUT...ISN'T
THIS...



BRING
IT ON...



WHO
WOULD'VE
THOUGHT
THINGS
WOULD
TURN OUT
LIKE THAT...

HELLO?
NAKAMURA-
KUN?

THINKING
BACK ON
IT, I STILL
WASN'T
PREPARED
FOR WHAT
WAS TO
COME.

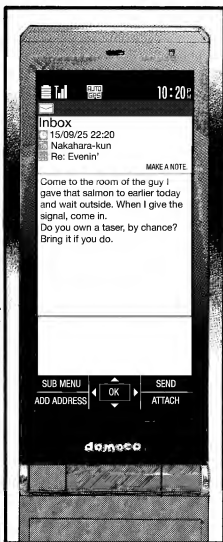


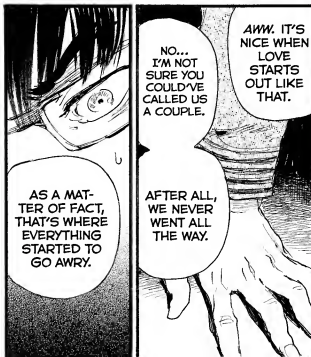
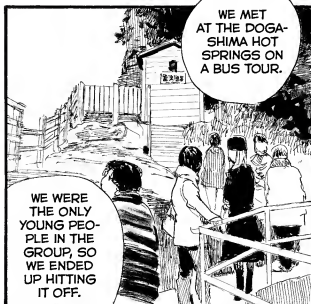
Chapter 5 「STEAM IS UNCONCEALABLE.」





*A BOXING MANGA IN WHICH THE PROTAGONIST USES A SIMILAR FIGHTING STANCE.





3rd
generation
slavic
heritage.

THERE,
WE CAN...

LET'S GO
TO A SUPER
SECLUDED
OPEN-AIR
HOT SPRING,
JUST THE
TWO OF
US.

IT STINKS,
AND YOU'D
BOTHER
THE OTHER
BATHERS.

NO,
NO,
NO.

HOW
ROMAN-
TIC...

I'M
GLAD...

A YEAR
AFTER WE MET,
I DECIDED TO
TELL HER HOW
I FELT...

SO, WHILE
HOLDING
HANDS, WE
THREW A
DART TO
DECIDE
WHERE
WE'D GO.

THAT'S
LOVEY-DOVEY
ENOUGH TO
MAKE ME
FEEL SICK.

KAMO-
SHIKA HOT
SPRING?
WHAT A
CUTE
NAME.

REGARDLESS
IF IT WAS CUTE
OR NOT, IT WAS
CERTAINLY
A LOW-KEY
LOCATION.

THE ONLY
OPEN-AIR
HOT SPRING
IN ZAO THAT
ALLOWS MIXED
BATHING IS
KAMOSHIKA.

ZAO...



**THAT'S
SOUNDS LIKE
NATURE'S WAY
OF TELLING
PEOPLE TO
STAY AWAY!**

AFTER ALL,
IT'S A NATURAL
HOT SPRING
LOCATED RIGHT
IN THE CENTER OF
A ROCKSLIDE ZONE
HALFWAY UP THE
MOUNTAIN...

...THAT YOU
HAVE TO HIKE UP
ON AN UNTENDED
PATH ABOUT AN
HOUR AND A HALF
FROM THE NETHER-
WORLD RIVERBED
PARKING AREA ON
THE ZAO ECHO LINE
TO GET TO.

KAMOSHIIKA HOT SPRING
MAEKAWA, KAWASAKI, SHIBATA DISTRICT,
MIYAGI PREFECTURE



THAT'S WHY...
IN ORDER TO
MAKE IT MORE
LIKE OUR OWN
SECRET HOT
SPRING...



THAT BEING
SAID, EVEN A
REMOTE PLACE
LIKE THAT GETS
VISITORS SOME-
TIMES DURING
THE TOURISM
SEASON.

SOUNDS
LIKE THE
PERFECT
PLACE TO
HAVE A
GRASS
SAND-
WICH.



I SEE...SO
YOU CHECKED
AS MANY
BOXES FOR
A DISASTER
SCENARIO AS
POSSIBLE.

...WE WENT
DURING
WINTER,
WHEN ALL
TRAFFIC
STOPS,

THAT
WAY, WE
WOULDN'T
RUN INTO
ANYONE.

ON A CALM
DAY WHEN
THE VOLCANIC
GASES BUILD
UP EASILY.

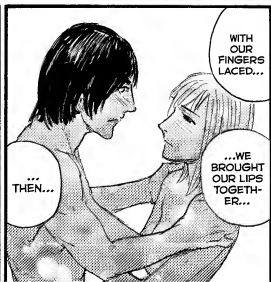


I CAN'T
DESCRIBE
HOW BEAUTIFUL
RITSUKO'S
NAKED BODY
WAS WHEN I
FIRST SAW
IT...



...THAT'S
WHERE MY
MEMORY
GOES BLANK.

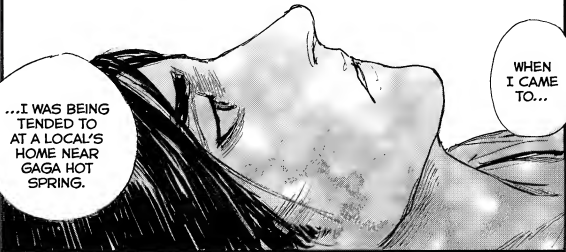
MY GUESS
IS IT WAS
THE GAS.



WITH
OUR
FINGERS
LACED...

... THEN...

...WE
BROUGHT
OUR LIPS
TOGETH-
ER...



...I WAS BEING
TENDEED TO
AT A LOCAL'S
HOME NEAR
GAGA HOT
SPRING.

WHEN
I CAME
TO...



...RITSU-
KO'S BODY
WAS NEVER
FOUND.

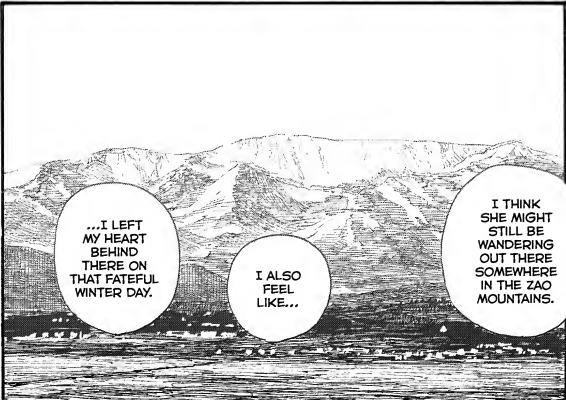
EVEN
AFTER
SPRING
CAME...



YER THE
ONLY
ONE WE
FOUND,
MISTER.

I'LL BE
A MONKEY'S
UNCLE. WE
FOUND YOU
NAKED AS A
BABE OUT
THERE.

...WHERE'S
THE WOMAN
I WAS
WITH?



...I LEFT
MY HEART
BEHIND
THERE ON
THAT FATEFUL
WINTER DAY.

I ALSO
FEEL
LIKE...

I THINK
SHE MIGHT
STILL BE
WANDERING
OUT THERE
SOMEWHERE
IN THE ZAO
MOUNTAINS.



MIND IF I
ASK YOU
SOMETHING,
TEACH?

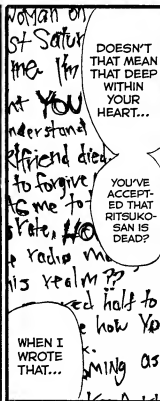
WHAT
IS IT?



BUT...
NO, I'M
NOT
SURE.

...TO BE
HONEST,
I WAS
BESIDE
MYSELF.

WHENEVER
I THINK
ABOUT IT,
MY HEAD
JUST...

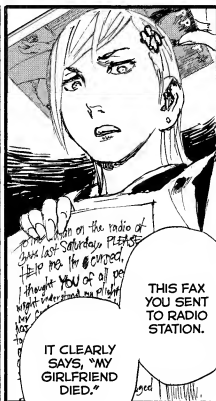


WOMAN ON
ST SATUR
me I'm
at YOU
nderstand
friend died
to forgive
me to
state, Ho
radio me
his realm?
red half to
e how Yo
coming as

DOESN'T
THAT MEAN
THAT DEEP
WITHIN
YOUR
HEART...

YOU'VE
ACCEPTED
THAT
RITSUKO-
SAN IS
DEAD?

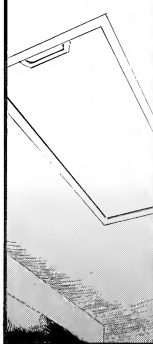
WHEN I
WROTE
THAT...



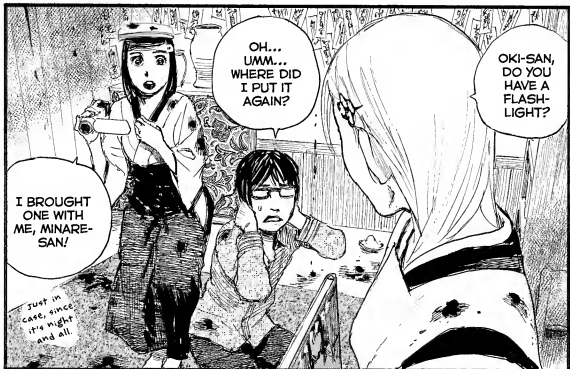
to the woman on the radio of
last Saturday. Please
help me. I'm cursed.
I thought YOU of all peo
might understand my plight
my pain.

THIS FAX
YOU SENT
TO RADIO
STATION.

IT CLEARLY
SAYS, "MY
GIRLFRIEND
DIED."



SINCE
THE LAYOUT
IS THE SAME
AS MY
PLACE...



I BROUGHT
ONE WITH
ME, MINARE-
SAN!

Just in
case, since
it's night
and all.

OH...
UMM...
WHERE DID
I PUT IT
AGAIN?

OKI-SAN,
DO YOU
HAVE A
FLASH-
LIGHT?



BUT THE
TRUTH IS,
I'VE NEVER
BEEN TO THE
NETHER-
WORLD.

I'll just be
using this...

WHAT LIS-
TENING TO
MY SHOW
MADE YOU
THINK.



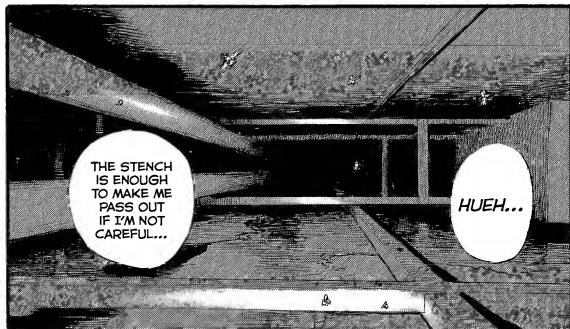
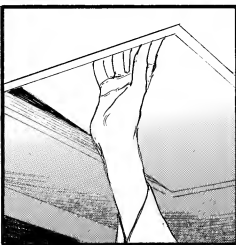
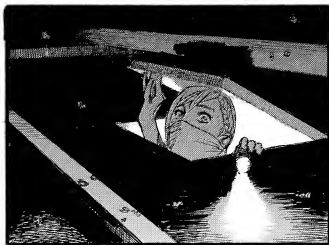
OKI-SAN,
I'M NOT
SURE...

What
are
you
going
to do?



BEFORE HOW
TO RETURN
FROM THE
AFTERLIFE,
THAT IS.

I TRY
TO THINK OF
A MORE REAL-
ISTIC SOLU-
TION FIRST.

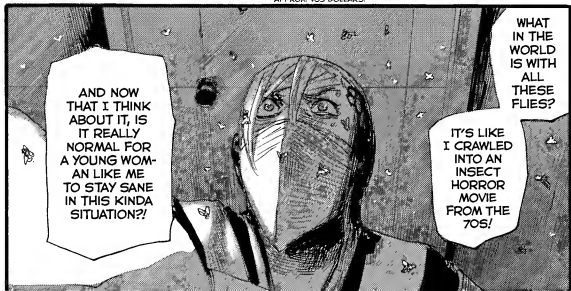


THE STENCH
IS ENOUGH
TO MAKE ME
PASS OUT
IF I'M NOT
CAREFUL...

HUEH...



*APPROX. \$39 DOLLARS.



IT'S SO
EASY TO
TELL WHERE
SHE IS...

DWOHHH!
YOU WON'T
BREAK ME!

MEAN-
ING...

I
HEARD IT
BEFORE
THE
ROTTING
JUICES
STARTED
DRIP-
PING.

ク"ク"ク"ク"ク"ク"..
W H R R R R

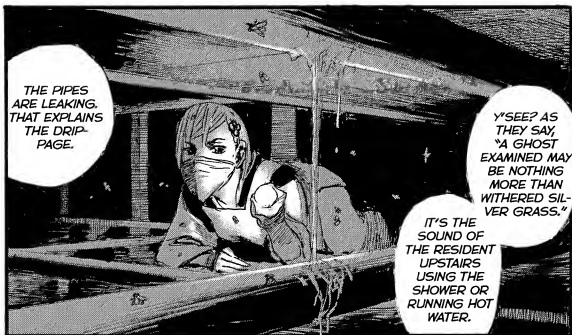
...

THIS
SOUND...

ク"ク"ク"ク"..
W H R R

シタ
シタ
シタ

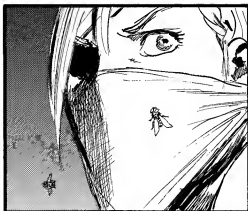
!



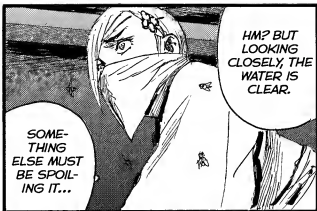
THE PIPES
ARE LEAKING.
THAT EXPLAINS
THE DRIP-
PAGE.

Y'SEE? AS
THEY SAY,
"A GHOST
EXAMINED MAY
BE NOTHING
MORE THAN
WITHERED SIL-
VER GRASS."

IT'S THE
SOUND OF
THE RESIDENT
UPSTAIRS
USING THE
SHOWER OR
RUNNING HOT
WATER.

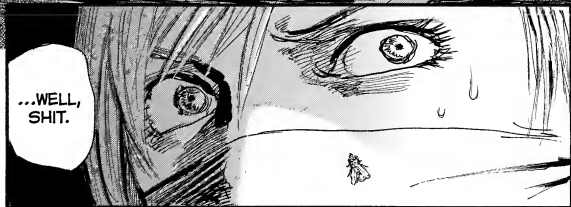


SOME-
THING
ELSE MUST
BE SPOIL-
ING IT...



HM? BUT
LOOKING
CLOSELY, THE
WATER IS
CLEAR.





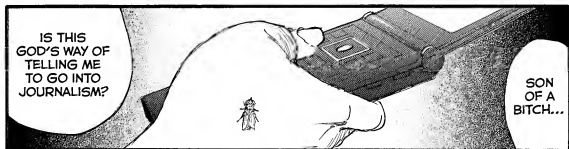
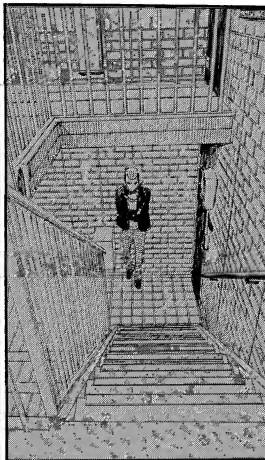
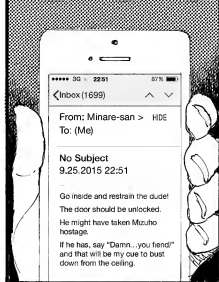
...WELL,
SHIT.



ALTOGETH-
ER, THAT'S
ENOUGH TO
FIT A SMALL
WOMAN.

FIVE...
SIX...

FOUR...



Chapter 2 IT WANT TO QZVJ







WE
DEFEATED
EVIL.



AM I
QUALIFIED
TO MAKE
THAT
JUDG-
MENT?

ACTUALLY...

WAS HE
REALLY AN
EVIL-DOER?



...WILL
EVENTUALLY
SHED
LIGHT
ON HIS
CRIMES.

I'M
SURE
THE
POLICE...

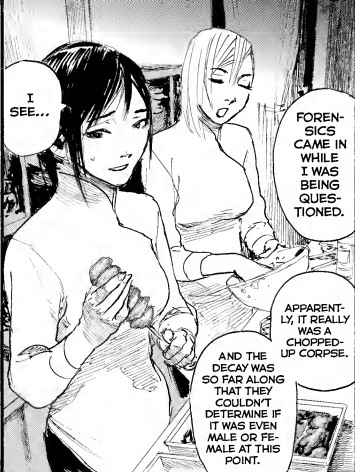
IF THE TRAGEDIES
BORN FROM
THE TANGLE
OF AFFECTION
BETWEEN MEN
AND WOMEN
COULD ALL BE
CATEGORIZED BY
DUALISM, THEN
HOW MEANING-
LESS WOULD THIS
WORLD TRULY BE?



I WONDER
WHAT MADE
HIM KILL HIS
GIRLFRIEND.

BUT
FROM
WHAT YOU
TOLD ME,
MINARE-
SAN...

WHILE HIS
BEHAVIOR
SEEMED A
LITTLE ERRAT-
IC, THEY CAME
ACROSS AS
A HAPPY
COUPLE,
RIGHT?



I
SEE...

FOREN-
SICS
CAME IN
WHILE
I WAS
BEING
QUESTIONED.

APPARENT-
LY, IT REALLY
WAS A
CHOPPED-
UP CORPSE.

AND THE
DECAY WAS
SO FAR ALONG
THAT THEY
COULDN'T
DETERMINE IF
IT WAS EVEN
MALE OR FE-
MALE AT THIS
POINT.



AND THIS
IS THE FIRST
I'M HEARING
ABOUT THAT.

...NOPE,
STILL NOT
GETTING
IT.

THE HINT
LIES IN HER
3RD GENER-
ATION SLAVIC
HERITAGE.

pheromones

JEEZ
LOUISE... YOU
SURE LACK
IMAGINATION
AND PHERO-
MONES, MISTER
SUBSTITUTE
OWNER.



ANY WOMAN
WHO'D GO
FOR A GLOOMY
GUY LIKE THAT
HAS TO HAVE
AN ULTERIOR
MOTIVE.

Harsh...

OF
COURSE,
GETTING
CLOSE TO
OKI-SAN WAS
ALSO PART OF
HER SPY
EFFORTS.



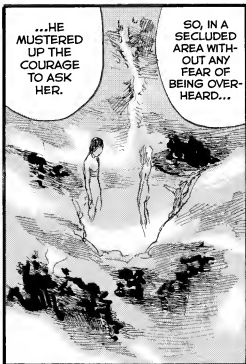
...SHE
WAS A
SPY FOR
RUSSIA'S
FOREIGN
INTELLI-
GENCE
AGENCY.

IN
OTHER
WORDS
...



WHO
ARE
YOU...?

RITSU-
KO...



...HE
MUSTERED
UP THE
COURAGE
TO ASK
HER.

SO, IN A
SECLUDED
AREA WITH-
OUT ANY
FEAR OF
BEING OVER-
HEARD...



BUT AS
IT TURNS
OUT...

OKI-SAN
WAS VAGUE-
LY SUSPI-
CIOUS OF
HER ALL
ALONG.

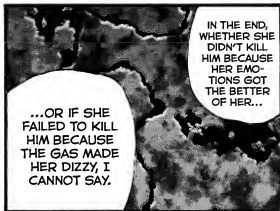


TALK TO ME,
PLEASE. I'LL
ACCEPT ANYTHING
YOU HAVE TO
SAY.

AND I'LL
PROBABLY
FORGET
IT ALL BY
TOMORROW
THANKS TO
THIS GAS...

THERE
WERE NO
TRACES OF
A "RITSUKO
AZOHARA."

THE PUBLIC
HOUSING YOU
SUPPOSEDLY
GREW UP IN. THE
MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOU CLAIMED
TO GO TO. NO
MATTER WHERE
I CHECKED...



...OR IF SHE
FAILED TO KILL
HIM BECAUSE
THE GAS MADE
HER DIZZY, I
CANNOT SAY.

IN THE END,
WHETHER SHE
DIDN'T KILL
HIM BECAUSE
HER EMO-
TIONS GOT THE
BETTER OF
HER...



BUT
BEFORE
HE COULD
FINISH, SHE
ALREADY HAD
A GUN IN
HER RIGHT
HAND.

SHE'D
BEEN TRAINED
TO KILL WHO-
EVER CAUGHT
ON TO HER,
AFTER ALL.



THE FACT THAT HE DID SO UNCONSCIOUSLY WAS BECAUSE HE, TOO, HAD THE MAKINGS OF A SERIAL KILLER.

BUT THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW, OKI-SAN HAD ALREADY BASHED IN HER HEAD WITH A ROCK LAYING NEARBY.



I WAS JUST THINKING IT'D BE ROMANTIC IF THAT WERE THE CASE! LIKE A GREEK TRAGEDY OR SOMETHING!

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'D FIND ALL THAT OUT IN A JUST A FEW HOURS!

WOW. I GOTTA HAND IT TO THE POLICE FOR FIGURING OUT THAT MUCH LESS THAN A DAY LATER.

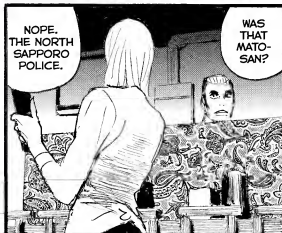


HELLO?

OH...YES. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YESTERDAY.



ROMANTIC HOW...?



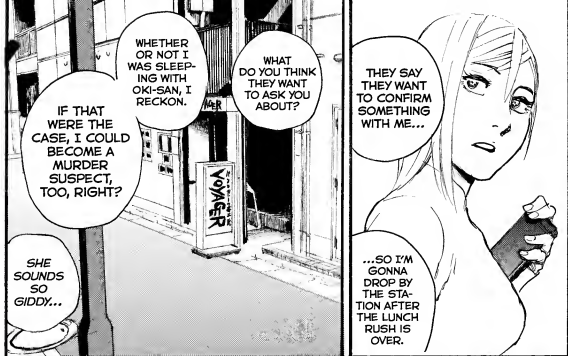
NOPE. THE NORTH SAPPORO POLICE.

WAS THAT MATO-SAN?



I SEE... I CAN PROBABLY MANAGE AROUND 3:30 OR SO. THAT'S FINE? ALL RIGHT, THEN.

YES... HUH?! NO, I'M A LITTLE TIED UP RIGHT NOW...



IF THAT WERE THE CASE, I COULD BECOME A MURDER SUSPECT, TOO, RIGHT?

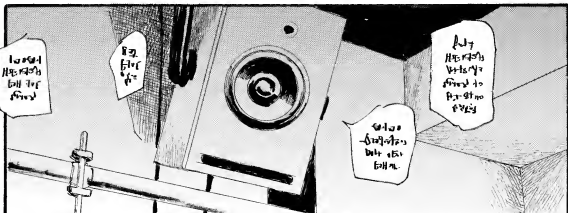
WHETHER OR NOT I WAS SLEEPING WITH OKI-SAN, I RECKON.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY WANT TO ASK YOU ABOUT?

THEY SAY THEY WANT TO CONFIRM SOMETHING WITH ME...

SHE SOUNDS SO GIDDY...

...SO I'M GONNA DROP BY THE STATION AFTER THE LUNCH RUSH IS OVER.



このテレビは、
昔のテレビと
全然違う。

さあ、
見てみる。

どうして
こんな古い
テレビを
使うの？

古いけど、
壊れてない
から。



CAN WE USE THE CAMERA'S AUDIO?

I'M SORRY... I SHOULD HAVE TOLD HER TO TAKE THE RECORDER OUT OF HER POCKET.

WE WON'T BE ABLE TO USE THIS UNLESS WE TINKER WITH IT QUITE A BIT.

THE DISTORTION'S PRETTY TERRIBLE.

Uwaaa!
you won't
break
me!!



OH, GOD! IT
WAS JUST
AWFUL!

I HAD TO
TAKE THREE
SHOWERS
IN ORDER
TO GET THE
STENCH
OFF!

HA HA
HA!



WELL,
WE CAN
PROBABLY
GET BY WITH
A TALK
SHOW,

GIVEN THE
KINDA EPISODE
YOU TWO WENT
THROUGH,
AFTER ALL.



RIGHT
NOW,
ADVER-
TISEMENTS
FOR WAVE,
LISTEN TO
ME....

CAN
BE FOUND
ON THE
STATION'S
HOMEPAGE,

BUT EVEN IN-
CLUDING RADIO
LOVERS, THERE
AREN'T MANY
LISTENERS WHO
ACTUALLY CHECK
THE STATION'S
WEBSITE.



I KNOW
IT'S IN BAD
TASTE TO SAY
THIS SINCE
SOMEONE
LOST THEIR
LIFE...

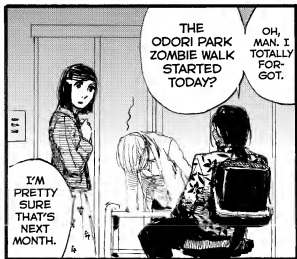


...IF WE
MANAGE TO
CATCH A WAVE,
THEN THAT
CHANGES
EVERYTHING.

HOW-
EVER...

BUT THIS
COULD MAKE
FOR GOOD
PRESS FOR
THE SHOW IF
WE PLAY OUR
CARDS RIGHT.





...DIDN'T END UP MAKING HEADLINES ON TV OR PAPERS NATIONWIDE AS A MURDER AND CORPSE FINDING...

...THE BIZARRE HAPPENING THAT MINARE-SAN AND I EXPERIENCED THAT NIGHT...

Corpse in the Ceiling
Police Called! -> Ho

1: Genghis Khan ★ Forever :
<http://jp.kitashinews.com>
Eh...

2: Anonymous : 2015/09/26 (Sat) 20:15:59
That's women for you.

3: Anonymous : 2015/09/26 (Sat) 20:16:59
Yeah, that happens... said n

4: Anonymous : 2015/09/26 (Sat) 20:18:59
Are the apartment ceilings connected?

5: Anonymous : 2015/09/26 (Sat) 20:18:39 ID:6x

...AND WAS MENTIONED IN PASSING ON THE FORUM WHICH FOUND THE ARTICLE.

The screenshot shows a forum thread with several posts. The first post is by 'Genghis Khan ★ Forever' with a link to a website. Subsequent posts are from anonymous users, discussing the article and mentioning 'women' and 'apartment ceilings'. The thread title is 'Corpse in the Ceiling' and the first post mentions 'Police Called! -> Ho'.

BWS

NEWS

Lovers' Lane

SAT

al Murder and Corpse Finding?!
Outcome No One Suspected

Sharing a Negima Skewer the B
I Always



...BUT ONLY WOUND UP IN THE CORNER OF THE LOCAL PAPER'S WEBPAGE...

The Day

NEW

Trending

Stigmata" to the Names of Italian
akes Them Sound like Anime?!

Move Over Hydrogen Water!
Dihydrogen is the New Hotness

...THE DAY OF WAVE, LISTEN TO ME'S THIRD RECORDING ARRIVED.

AND SO...



THIS IS
MINARE
KODA'S
WAVE,
LISTEN
TO...



HOJOTOHO!
HOJOTOHO!

I'M NOT SURE WHAT ALL YOU WHO HAVE STAYED UP THIS LATE TO LISTEN ARE HOPING TO HEAR.

IT'S 3 A.M., A TIME WHEN EVEN PLANTS ARE ASLEEP.

BEFORE WE GET INTO THAT...

UMM... REGARDING WHAT THE CONCEPT OF THIS SHOW IS, OR WHAT KIND OF FORMAT IT WILL TAKE,

...I MUST FIRST USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APOLOGIZE TO A CERTAIN MAN AND THE WORLD AT LARGE.

SHE'S SLURRING A LOT TODAY.

UHH...

PLEASSED TO MEET YOU... I'M ROOKIE RADIO PERSONALITY, MINARE KODA.

WELL, TO BE SPECIFIC, THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET, BUT BEAR WITH ME.

...I'M SURE SOME OF YOU ARE AWARE OF THIS LITTLE BIT OF NEWS, BUT...

ERR... AS IT'S BEEN LISTED ON THE WEBSITES OF THE HOKKAIDO PRESS AND OTHER OUTLETS...

talk about that night
keep talking about that night

03:52
03:49

INTERROGATION
ROOM

IT TURNS
OUT IT
WASN'T
HUMAN
FLESH.

REGARDING
THE "BODY"
THAT YOU
FOUND IN THE
CEILING LAST
NIGHT.



BUT WHAT WE
DETERMINED
IS THAT IT
WAS IN FACT
PROCESSED
MUTTON.

NO
CRIME HAS
BEEN COM-
MITTED.

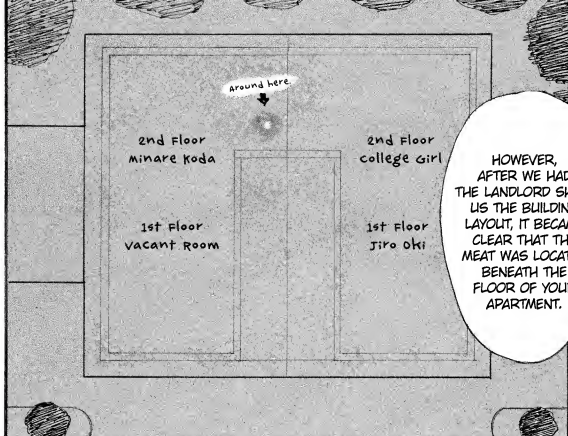
WE DIDN'T
REALIZE UNTIL
THE LAB GOT
A LOOK AT IT,
SINCE IT WAS
IN PIECES AND
HAD ROTTED A
GREAT DEAL.

...COME
AGAIN?

...WE ARRESTED
OKI-SAN AS A
RESULT.

FURTHER-
MORE,

DUE TO THE
FACT THAT YOU
REPORTEDLY FOUND
THE MEAT AFTER
ENTERING THE
CEILING FROM JIRO
OKI-SAN'S APART-
MENT...



HOWEVER,
AFTER WE HAD
THE LANDLORD SHOW
US THE BUILDING
LAYOUT, IT BECAME
CLEAR THAT THE
MEAT WAS LOCATED
BENEATH THE
FLOOR OF YOUR
APARTMENT.



OBVIOUSLY,
I WASN'T
ABLE TO
FIT IT ALL
IN THE
REFRIGER-
ATOR...



...AND
ENDED
UP COM-
PLETELY
FOR-
GETTING
ABOUT
IT.

...SO I
STUFFED IT IN
THE STORAGE
BENEATH THE
FLOOR AS A
TEMPORARY
SOLUTION...



WHEN I
MOVED TO
SAPPORO
FROM MY
HOMETOWN
OF KUSHI-
RO...

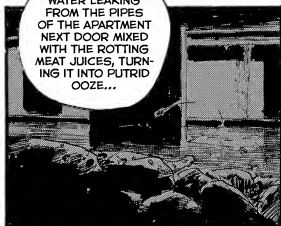
...I WAS GIVEN
NEARLY 50KG
WORTH OF
BONE-IN MUTTON
AND BOTTLED
FRUIT WINES.



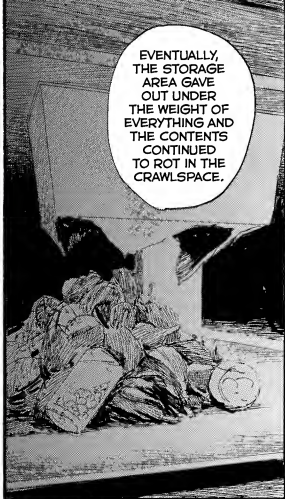
UMM...

THIS IS
WHAT I BE-
LIEVE TO BE
THE CASE.

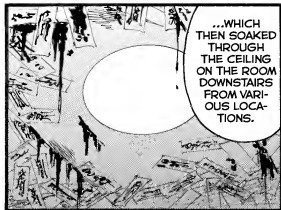
MEANWHILE,
WATER LEAKING
FROM THE PIPES
OF THE APARTMENT
NEXT DOOR MIXED
WITH THE ROTTING
MEAT JUICES, TURN-
ING IT INTO PUTRID
OOZE...



EVENTUALLY,
THE STORAGE
AREA GAVE
OUT UNDER
THE WEIGHT OF
EVERYTHING AND
THE CONTENTS
CONTINUED
TO ROT IN THE
CRAWLSPACE.



...WHICH
THEN SOAKED
THROUGH
THE CEILING
ON THE ROOM
DOWNSTAIRS
FROM VARI-
OUS LOCA-
TIONS.



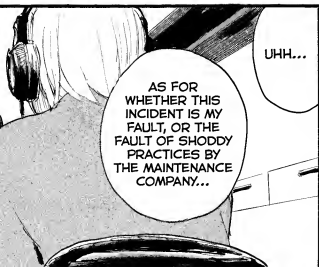
Do you,
now?

...I BELIEVE
THAT I STAND IN
THE GRAY AREA,
CLOSER TO THE
WHITE SIDE OF
THINGS.



UHH...

AS FOR
WHETHER THIS
INCIDENT IS MY
FAULT, OR THE
FAULT OF SHODDY
PRACTICES BY
THE MAINTENANCE
COMPANY...





...WHICH LED TO FOUR SQUAD CARS SHOWING UP AT THE APARTMENT BUILDING...





...TO TALK
ABOUT ALL
KINDS OF CRAZY
STUFF FROM
MURDER, TO
ALIENS, TO
MT. FUJI.

BUT,
UHH, HOW
SHOULD I
PUT IT?

...UNTIL
NOW, I'VE
USED THIS
TIME...



...WAS
THE MOST
BIZARRE
OF ALL.

IT
SEEMS
THAT
REALITY...



A PERMANENT...
...SEGMENT?



WELL,
THEN!
CHANGING
GEARS...

...NEXT
IS THE
MISSING
PERSONS
SEGMENT
THAT I PLAN
TO MAKE A
PERMANENT
PART OF
WAVE, LISTEN
TO ME..



SHE IS A
22-YEAR OLD,
3RD GENERATION
SLAVIC
WOMAN WHO
STANDS ABOUT
5'1".

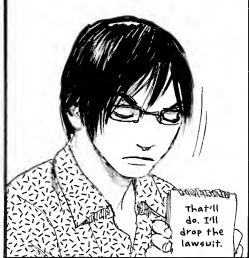
OUR
FIRST MISS-
ING PERSON
IS RITSUKO
AZOHARA-
SAN!

ER...
WAS THAT
IN THE
SCRIPT?

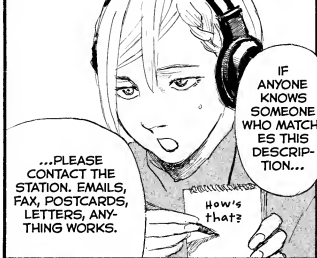
NO. THE
CUE SHEET
ONLY SAYS,
"TALK ABOUT
THAT NIGHT,"
TOO...

SHE FIRST
WENT MISSING
IN THE MIDDLE
OF JANUARY OF
LAST YEAR AND
WAS LAST
SEEN NEAR THE
ZAO HOT SPRINGS
OF SHIBATA IN
THE MIYAGI PREFE-
CTURE.

AND HOW
DOES SHE EX-
CEPT TO MAKE
A MISSING PERSONS
SEGMENT ON A
LATE-NIGHT SHOW
WITH BARELY ANY
LISTENERS?



That'll
do. I'll
drop the
lawsuit.



...PLEASE
CONTACT THE
STATION. EMAILS,
FAX, POSTCARDS,
LETTERS, ANY-
THING WORKS.

IF
ANYONE
KNOWS
SOMEONE
WHO MATCH-
ES THIS
DESCRIPTION...

How's
that?



THIS
SHOW
IS DEDI-
CATED...

OF
MINARE
KODA'S
WAVE,
LISTEN
TO ME..

NOW,
THEN!
TODAY
MARKS
THE FIRST
OFFICIAL
BROAD-
CAST...



THOSE WHO
CONTINUE
TO MAKE
THE WRONG
CHOICES IN
LIFE.

THOSE
WHO HAVE
HURT PEOPLE
CLOSE TO
THEM.

...TO THOSE
OUT THERE
WHOSE LIVES
ARE BUILT
ON INCON-
VENIENCING
OTHERS.

THOSE WHO,
EVEN THOUGH
WE CAN'T
UNDO OUR
LIVES...

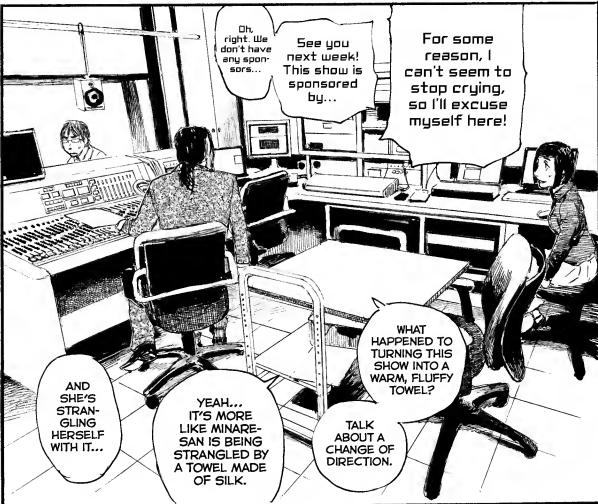
...DON'T
WANT PRETEND
LIKE NOTHING
HAPPENED.



...A PLACE
WHERE FAILURES
CAN GATHER
AND GET ON
THE PATH TO RE-
HABILITATION.

THOSE WHO
SIMPLY JUST
WANT TO MAKE
AMENDS.

THIS
SHOW IS
SCHEDULED
TO BECOME...



Oh,
right. We
don't have
any spon-
sors...

See you
next week!
This show is
sponsored
by...

For some
reason, I
can't seem to
stop crying,
so I'll excuse
myself here!

AND
SHE'S
STRAN-
GLING
HERSELF
WITH IT...

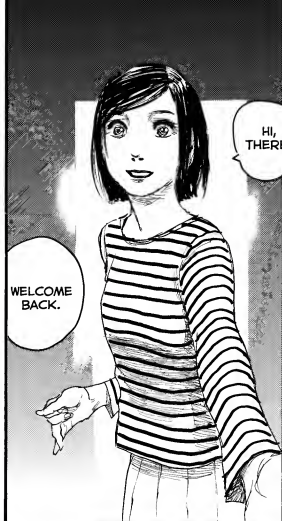
YEAH...
IT'S MORE
LIKE MINARE-
SAN IS BEING
STRANGLING BY
A TOWEL MADE
OF SILK.

WHAT
HAPPENED TO
TURNING THIS
SHOW INTO A
WARM, FLUFFY
TOWEL?

TALK
ABOUT A
CHANGE OF
DIRECTION.

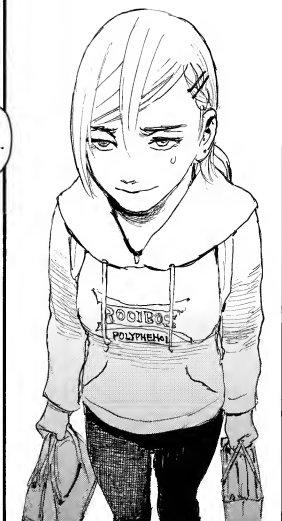
Chapter 33 『I WANT TO SUPPORT YOU.』





HI,
THERE.

WELCOME
BACK.



AFTER THE
COMMOTION THE
OTHER DAY, THE
MAN LIVING ON
THE FLOOR BELOW
MINARE-SAN, JIRO
OKI, HAD TO LEAVE
HIS APARTMENT SO
THE UNIT COULD BE
CLEANED. MINARE-
SAN IS LETTING HIM
USE HER ROOM IN
THE MEANTIME.

MIZU-
HO...

YOU'VE
FALLEN INTO
THE ROLE OF
NARRATOR
SINCE THE
LAST CHAPTER
SO NATU-
RALLY.

HUH?
WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

...ABOUT
BECOMING
A NUN.

I'M
THINK-
ING...

BE-
TWEEN
WHEN
YOU'RE
BEING
SERI-
OUS...

...SO
I'VE
LEARNED
TO TELL
THE
DIFFER-
ENCE...

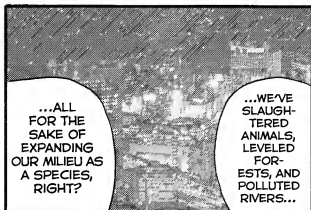
MINARE-
SAN...

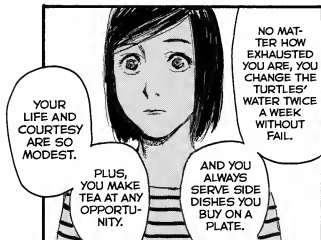
I'VE
LIVED WITH
YOU FOR
SOME TIME
NOW...

NO!

YOU'VE
GOT
IT ALL
WRONG,
MIZUHO-
SAN!

...AND
WHEN
YOU'LL
PROBABLY
BE SINGING
A DIFFER-
ENT TUNE
IN A FEW
DAYS.



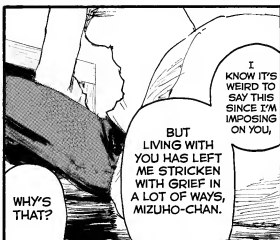


YOUR
LIFE AND
COURTESY
ARE SO
MODEST.

PLUS,
YOU MAKE
TEA AT ANY
OPPORTU-
NITY.

AND YOU
ALWAYS
SERVE SIDE
DISHES YOU
BUY ON A
PLATE.

NO MAT-
TER HOW
EXHAUSTED
YOU ARE, YOU
CHANGE THE
TURTLES'
WATER TWICE
A WEEK
WITHOUT
FAIL.



WHY'S
THAT?

BUT
LIVING WITH
YOU HAS LEFT
ME STRICKEN
WITH GRIEF IN
A LOT OF WAYS,
MIZUHO-CHAN.

I
KNOW IT'S
WEIRD TO
SAY THIS
SINCE I'M
IMPOSING
ON YOU,



I BORROWED
A DVD OF *ONNA
TAIKOKI** FROM A
FRIEND, BUT WHEN
I RETURNED IT, I
PUT A COPY OF
*SHOGUN'S SADISM***
INSIDE INSTEAD...
IT'S JUST ONE
THING AFTER
ANOTHER!

*A JAPANESE PERIOD DRAMA
FROM THE 80S.
**A JAPANESE SPLATTER FILM.

AND I HAVE
AT LEAST TEN
WIDOWED
SOCKS THAT
DON'T MATCH
IN MY DRAWER.

I WATER
DOWN INSTANT
COFFEE AS
MUCH AS I
CAN AND
SERVE IT
TO GUESTS
AS BARLEY
TEA...

ON THE
OTHER
HAND,
JUST
LOOK AT
ME!



I don't
think
the
latter
is what
you
think
it is...

MINARE-
SAN...



I DID SOME
RESEARCH,
AND IT TURNS
OUT THERE ARE
PROGRAMS
LIKE "NUN FOR
A DAY" OR "NUN
PLAY" OFFERED
IN SAPPORO,
SO I'M GONNA
GO CHECK
IT OUT.

...TO DEVOTE
THE REST
OF MY LIFE
TO PRAYING
FOR PEACE IN
THE LIVES OF
OTHERS!

SO
I'VE
DECID-
ED...

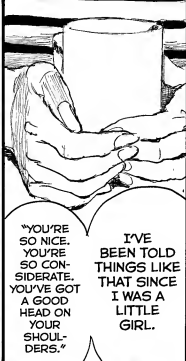


EVEN IF
I CAN LOOK
AFTER
OTHERS, IT
DOESN'T
MEAN I'M
CAPABLE OF
ANYTHING
MYSELF.



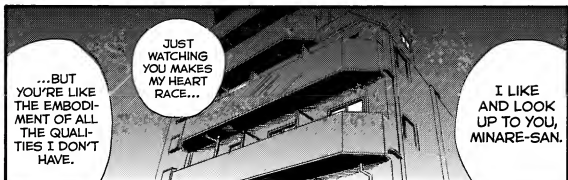
BUT...
HOW DO
I PUT
IT?

THAT'S
ALL I'VE
GOT GOING
FOR ME,
REALLY.



"YOU'RE
SO NICE.
YOU'RE
SO CON-
SIDERATE.
YOU'VE GOT
A GOOD
HEAD ON
YOUR
SHOULD-
ERS."

I'VE
BEEN TOLD
THINGS LIKE
THAT SINCE
I WAS A
LITTLE
GIRL.



...BUT
YOU'RE LIKE
THE EMBODI-
MENT OF ALL
THE QUALI-
TIES I DON'T
HAVE.

JUST
WATCHING
YOU MAKES
MY HEART
RACE...

I LIKE
AND LOOK
UP TO YOU,
MINARE-SAN.



I DON'T
EXPECT
YOU TO BE
SENSITIVE OR
COURTEOUS
IN THE
SLIGHTEST!

YOU'RE
AN INEX-
PLICABLE
MASS
OF LIFE
ENERGY!



I'LL
GET A
SEX CHANGE
AND MAKE
THIS GIRL
HAPPY!

MIZUHO...

ALL
RIGHT!
AXE THE
NUN IDEA!



...WHAT
SOMEONE
WHO WORKED
THEIR WAY
UP...

WELL,
I WAS
JUST
CURIOUS...



HOW DID
YOU GET INTO
RADIO, ANY-
WAY, MIZUHO-
CHAN?

WHERE
DID THAT
COME FROM?



YOU
SAY
EMBAR-
RASS...

...THOUGHT
ABOUT
SEEING ME,
A TOTAL
AMATEUR
WITH NO AT-
TACHMENT
TO RADIO...

JUST GET
HANDED A
SHOW AND
EMBARRASS
MYSELF ON
THE AIR.



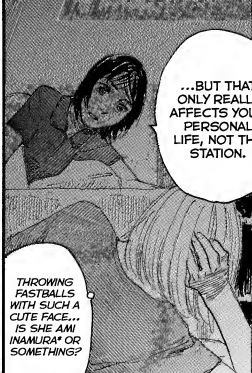
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYTHING LIKE THAT AT MAJOR BROADCASTING STATIONS.

YOU MEAN PEOPLE WHO DON'T BELONG TO AN AGENCY?



BUT CASES LIKE YOURS...

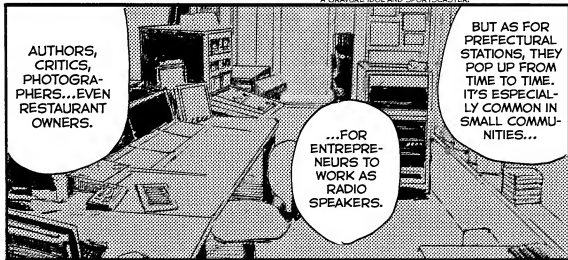
...AREN'T COMPLETELY UNHEARD OF, MINARE-SAN.



...BUT THAT ONLY REALLY AFFECTS YOUR PERSONAL LIFE, NOT THE STATION.

THROWING FASTBALLS WITH SUCH A CUTE FACE... IS SHE AMI INAMURA* OR SOMETHING?

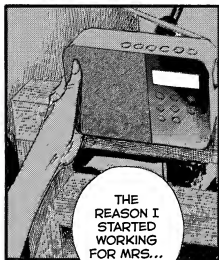
*A GRAVURE IDOL AND SPORTSCASTER.



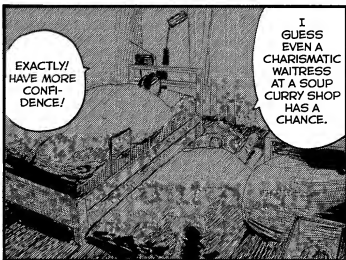
AUTHORS, CRITICS, PHOTOGRAPHERS...EVEN RESTAURANT OWNERS.

...FOR ENTREPRENEURS TO WORK AS RADIO SPEAKERS.

BUT AS FOR PREFECTURAL STATIONS, THEY POP UP FROM TIME TO TIME. IT'S ESPECIALLY COMMON IN SMALL COMMUNITIES...



THE REASON I STARTED WORKING FOR MRS...



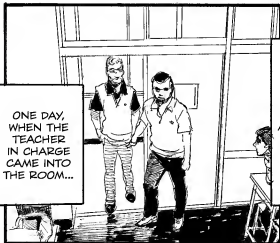
EXACTLY! HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE!

I GUESS EVEN A CHARISMATIC WAITRESS AT A SOUP CURRY SHOP HAS A CHANCE.



PE-
CULIAR?

...ALL
STEMS
FROM A PE-
CULIAR DAY
OF CLASS
IN HIGH
SCHOOL.



ONE DAY,
WHEN THE
TEACHER
IN CHARGE
CAME INTO
THE ROOM...

I OFTEN
WENT TO
THE LECTURES
ABOUT BROAD-
CASTING AND
COMMUNICA-
TIONS MEDIA.



I CALLED IN A
FRIEND OF MINE
TO SPEAK AS A
GUEST LECTURER
TODAY, SO MAKE
SURE YOU LISTEN
TO WHAT HE HAS
TO SAY.

SORRY,
EVERYONE!
MY WIFE
GOT INTO A
LITTLE CAR
ACCIDENT AND I'VE
GOTTA
RUN.

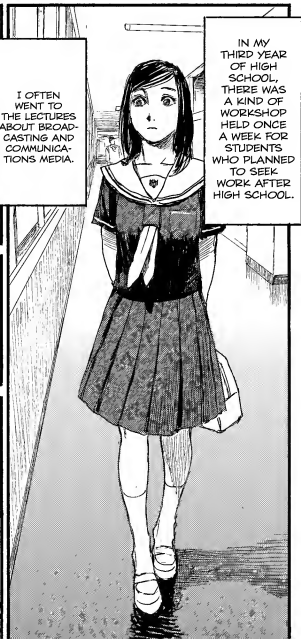


THINGS WERE
ALREADY
ABSDUR
ENOUGH
AT THAT
POINT, BUT
THEN THE
FIRST THING
TO COME
OUT OF HIS
MOUTH...

ALL RIGHT,
THEY'RE
IN YOUR
HANDS.

HE'S A
SCRIPT-
WRITER
FOR MOI-
WAYAMA
RADIO.

YUP.



IN MY
THIRD YEAR
OF HIGH
SCHOOL,
THERE WAS
A KIND OF
WORKSHOP
HELD ONCE
A WEEK FOR
STUDENTS
WHO PLANNED
TO SEEK
WORK AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL.



ANYONE
WHO ISN'T
INTERESTED IS
FREE TO LEAVE.
I'LL MARK YOU
FOR ATTEN-
DANCE.

I CAN'T
SPEAK AT ALL
ABOUT INTER-
NET RADIO.

I WILL
ONLY TALK
ABOUT GENERAL
BROADCASTING,
OR THE SO-
CALLED "RADIO
STATION."



HALF THE
STUDENTS
REALLY
ENDED UP
LEAVING.

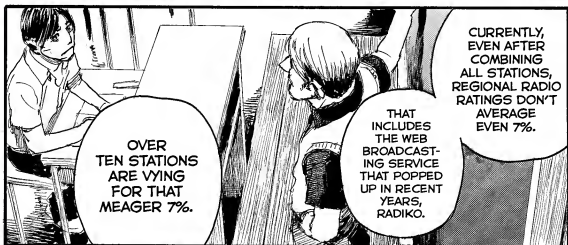
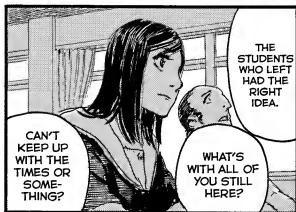
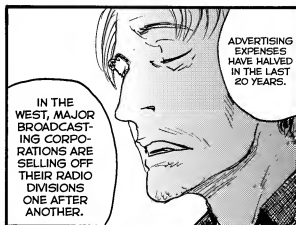
...WAS
THAT,
OF ALL
THINGS.

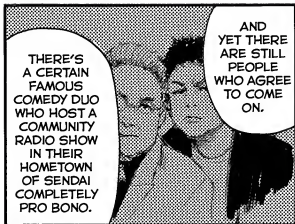


WHAT
STARTED
WAS AN
INCREDIBLY
NEGATIVE
CAMPAIGN
AGAINST
RADIO.

OR
NOT...

BUT THAT DIDN'T
SEEM TO FAZE HIM,
AND HE WENT ON
TO SPEAK ABOUT
THE APPEAL OF
WORKING IN RADIO.





THERE'S A CERTAIN FAMOUS COMEDY DUO WHO HOST A COMMUNITY RADIO SHOW IN THEIR HOMETOWN OF SENDAI COMPLETELY PRO BONO.

AND YET THERE ARE STILL PEOPLE WHO AGREE TO COME ON.



IT'S BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE THEM THAT RADIO IS MANAGING TO JUST BARELY HOLD ON.

IT'S THEIR WAY OF PAYING BACK FOR ALL THE HELP THEY RECEIVED WHEN THEY WERE FIRST STARTING OUT.

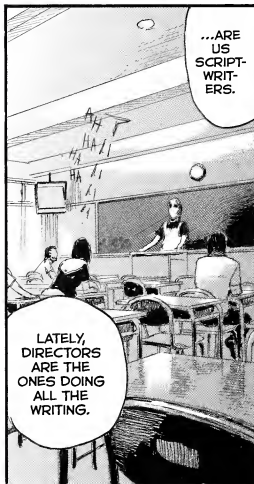


20,000* YEN.

THAT'S 4,000** AN HOUR. IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE HARD FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS LIKE YOU TO COMPREHEND...

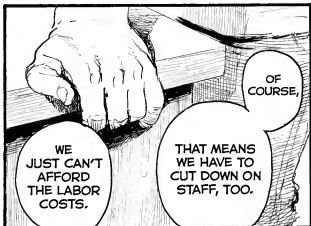
...BUT THAT'S CHUMP CHANGE COMPARED TO TV.

*APPROX. 8200
**APPROX. 640



...ARE US SCRIPT-WRITERS.

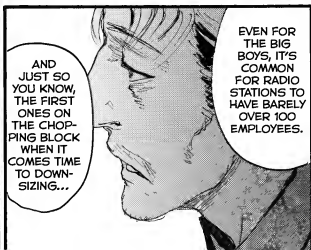
LATELY, DIRECTORS ARE THE ONES DOING ALL THE WRITING.



OF COURSE,

WE JUST CAN'T AFFORD THE LABOR COSTS.

THAT MEANS WE HAVE TO CUT DOWN ON STAFF, TOO.



AND JUST SO YOU KNOW, THE FIRST ONES ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK WHEN IT COMES TIME TO DOWN-SIZING...

EVEN FOR THE BIG BOYS, IT'S COMMON FOR RADIO STATIONS TO HAVE BARELY OVER 100 EMPLOYEES.



"SPEED."

AND
"FREEDOM."

"CLOSE-
NESS TO A
REGION."

"RESPON-
SIVENESS TO
DISASTERS
THAT OCCUR
IN SAID
REGION."

IF I HAD
TO LIST WAYS
THAT RADIO
BEATS TV IN
TERMS OF THE
BROADCASTING
INDUSTRY...

...THERE
ARE
FOUR.

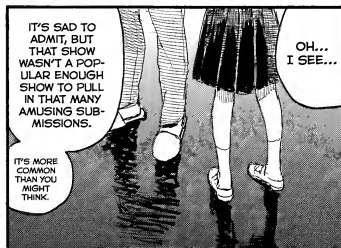
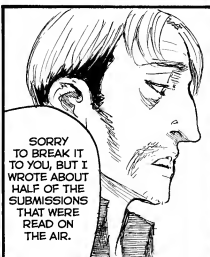


THAT BEING
SAID, IT GETS
ITS HOOKS
INTO YOU.

THE MAJORITY
OF PROJECTS
ARE SLAPPED
TOGETHER IN THE
BLINK OF AN EYE,
AND THE SUCCESS
OF FAILURE OF THEM
IS DETERMINED BY
THE LISTENERS'
REACTIONS JUST
AS QUICKLY.

IT'S NICE
THAT THINGS
ARE SPEEDY,
BUT IT'S ALSO
SCARY AS
HELL.







DO YOU
HAVE ANY
SUGGESTIONS
FOR THINGS TO
STUDY IN ORDER
TO BECOME A
RADIO AD?

YOU
WANNA BE
AN AD?
HMM...

EVEN AFTER
I INTIMIDATED
YOU THAT
MUCH, HUH?
WELL, WELL.



I
DON'T
HAVE ANY
CRAZY
IDEAS,
EITHER.

I'M...
MORE OF A
BEHIND-
THE-
SCENES
PERSON.



WHY AN
AD?

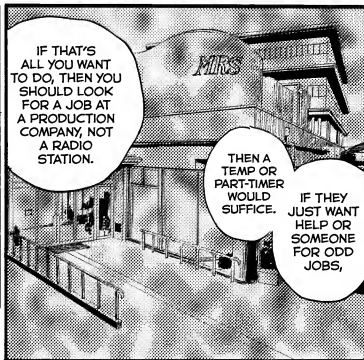
UMM...

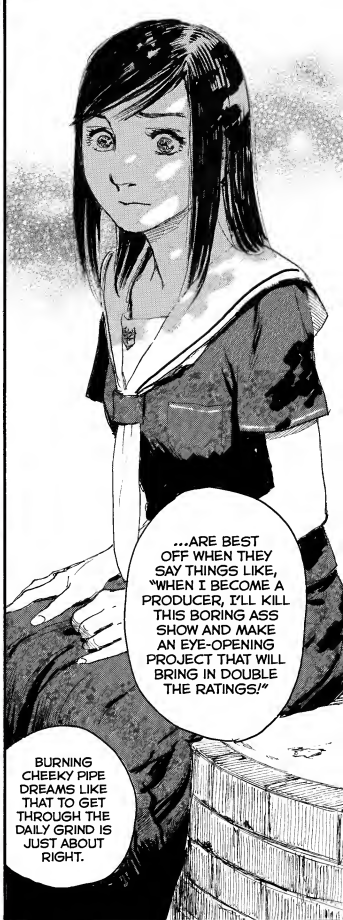
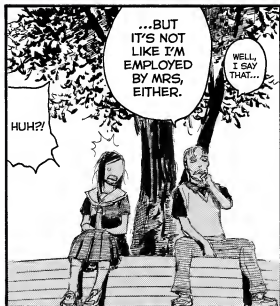
DON'T YOU
WANNA TRY
MAKING SHOWS
USING ALL
YOUR FAVORITE
CELEBS AND
WHATNOT?



...SO I
WANT TO
HELP IN
ANY WAY
THAT I
CAN.

BUT I
STILL
LOVE
RADIO...





HUH?!

...BUT
IT'S NOT
LIKE I'M
EMPLOYED
BY MRS.
EITHER.

WELL,
I SAY
THAT...

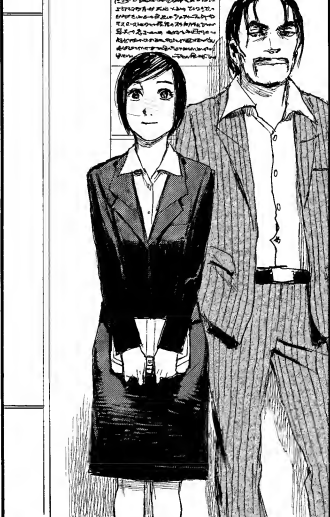
NAH, THE
DIRECTOR'S
JUST AN OLD
FRIEND OF MINE.
MY MAIN JOB
IS WRITING
EROTIC
NOVELS...

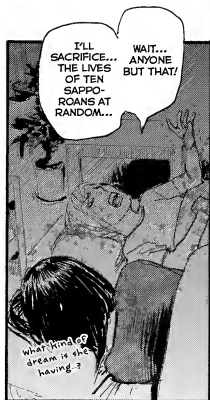
I'M
TELLING YOU,
IT'S MORE
COMMON THAN
YOU THINK.
MOST SCRIPT-
WRITERS ARE
FREELANCE.

I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
GIVING ME
ADVICE
AS A FULL-
TIMER...

...ARE BEST
OFF WHEN THEY
SAY THINGS LIKE,
"WHEN I BECOME A
PRODUCER, I'LL KILL
THIS BORING ASS
SHOW AND MAKE
AN EYE-OPENING
PROJECT THAT WILL
BRING IN DOUBLE
THE RATINGS!"

BURNING
CHEEKY PIPE
DREAMS LIKE
THAT TO GET
THROUGH THE
DAILY GRIND IS
JUST ABOUT
RIGHT.

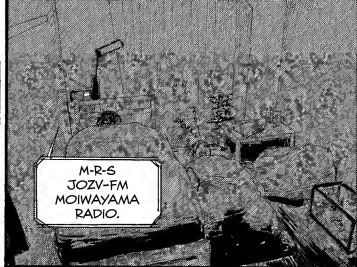




I'LL
SACRIFICE...
THE LIVES
OF TEN
SAPPO-
ROANS AT
RANDOM...

WAIT...
ANYONE
BUT THAT!

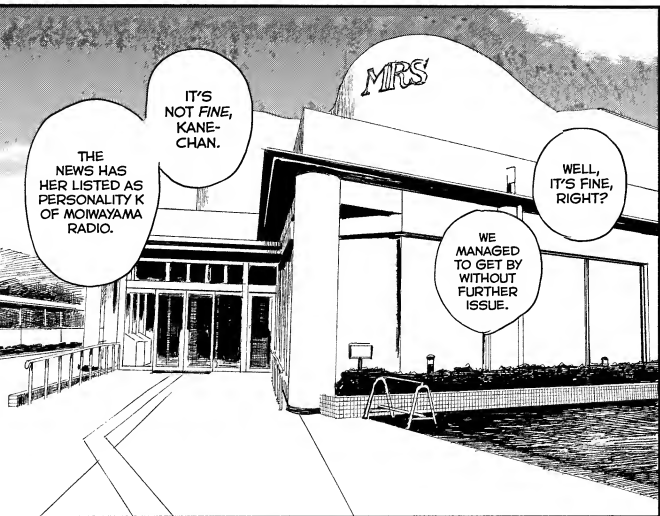
What kind of
dream is she
having?



M-R-S
JOZY-FM
MOIWAYAMA
RADIO.



IT
SEEMS
SO LONG
AGO...



THE
NEWS HAS
HER LISTED AS
PERSONALITY K
OF MOIWAYAMA
RADIO.

IT'S
NOT FINE,
KANE-
CHAN.

WELL,
IT'S FINE,
RIGHT?

WE
MANAGED
TO GET BY
WITHOUT
FURTHER
ISSUE.



AT ANY
RATE...



YOU REALLY
THINK IT'S
A TIME A DE-
CENT PERSON
WOULD
TAKE?



YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO SAID
YOU WANTED
A YOUNG
GIRL FOR
LATE-NIGHT,
KIKUKAWA-
SAN.

...AS
PER THE
CONTRACT,
I'M GONNA
USE THE
REMAINING
MONTH
HOWEVER I
SEE FIT.

THERE YOU
GO AGAIN,
POUTING AND
SHUTTING ME
DOWN LIKE
THAT.

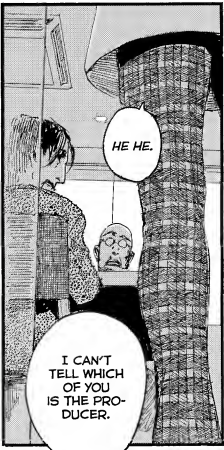


THEY'RE
SAYING,
"SINCE IT'S A
SLOT WITH NO
SPONSORS,
CAN'T YOU GET
SOMEONE A
LITTLE MORE
RESPECT-
ABLE?"

I'M NOT
WORRIED
ABOUT IT,
PERSON-
ALLY,

BUT THE
HIGHER-UPS
WON'T GET
OFF MY
BACK.

DON'T BULLY
KIKUKAWA-SAN
TOO MUCH,
MATO-SAN.



HE HE.

I CAN'T
TELL WHICH
OF YOU
IS THE PRO-
DUCER.



Chapter

24

『NAKTOPI MUST NEVER BE REMOVED.』







YOU SHOULD USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO OPEN YOUR OWN PLACE...

HA HA. I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT.

...THEN LEAVE THIS PLACE TOTALLY DESERTED BY THE TIME THE OWNER COMES BACK.



OH-HO. YOU GOT IT.

WILL YOU THINK OF A NAME FOR MY RESTAURANT, THEN, MINARE-SAN?



WHAT IT'S LIKE TO RUN YOUR OWN RESTAURANT AND SUCH.

BUT I'VE LEARNED A LOT IN THIS TIME.

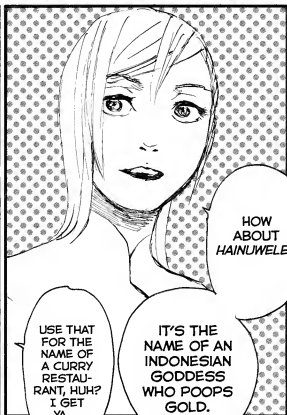


CHA
CHARA
CHAA
CHAP
CHA
CHARA
CHAA
CHAA



AHH. YEAH, I'M GOOD.

HELLO, HELLO.



HOW ABOUT HAINUWELE?

USE THAT FOR THE NAME OF A CURRY RESTAURANT, HUH? I GET YA...

IT'S THE NAME OF AN INDONESIAN GODDESS WHO POOPS GOLD.



IS THIS
WHAT I
THINK IT
IS?

AM I
GONNA NEED
TO BRING
A PAIR OF
KNUCKLE
DUSTERS?

What
kinda
person do
you take
Chishiro
for?



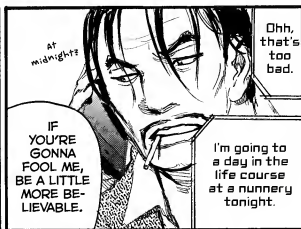
HUH?

ME AND
CHISHIRO-
SAN? ONE-
ON-ONE?



SHE JUST
WANTS TO
CHAT WITH
YOU FOR AN
HOUR OR
SO.

I GUESS
SHE HAD SOME
THOUGHTS
ABOUT YOUR
SHOW THE
OTHER
DAY.







THERE'S
NO HARM IN
LISTENING TO
WHAT SHE
HAS TO SAY
FOR FUTURE
REFERENCE.

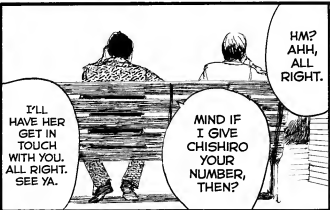
SORRY,
SORRY. I
DIDN'T MEAN
ANYTHING
THAT DEEP
BY IT.

ALL I'M
SAYING IS
CHISHIRO
ONE OF THE
TOP THREE
SPEAKERS AT
OUR STATION.



sheesh.

I'LL
HAVE HER
GET IN
TOUCH
WITH YOU.
ALL RIGHT.
SEE YA.



HM?
AHH,
ALL RIGHT.

MIND IF
I GIVE
CHISHIRO
YOUR
NUMBER,
THEN?

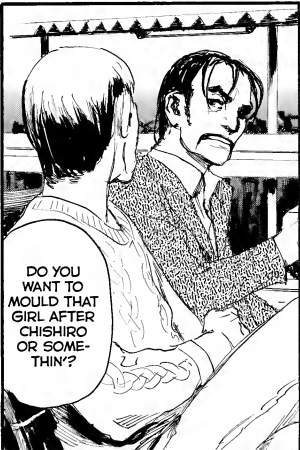


...BUT
NOT
WHAT
I HAVE
IN MIND
AT ALL.

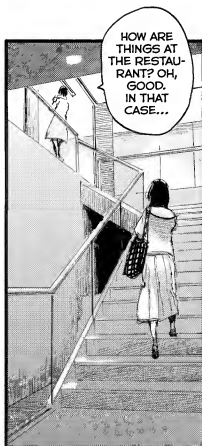
THAT'S
PROBABLY
WHAT'S
BEST
FOR THE
STATION...



I
FIGURED.



DO YOU
WANT TO
MOULD THAT
GIRL AFTER
CHISHIRO
OR SOME-
THIN'?

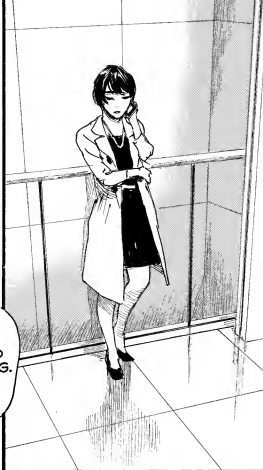


HOW ARE
THINGS AT
THE RESTAU-
RANT? OH,
GOOD.
IN THAT
CASE...



SORRY
TO BOTHER
YOU OUT OF
THE BLUE
LIKE
THIS.

GOOD
EVENING.



KUREKO-
SAN!



THANKS,
BUT I HAVE
PLANS
TONIGHT...

HEADING
HOME? I'LL
GIVE YOU A
RIDE.

OOP.



NOT
TONIGHT.
THERE'S A
SCRIPT I HAVE
TO GET DONE
BY EIGHT
TOMORROW
MORNING.

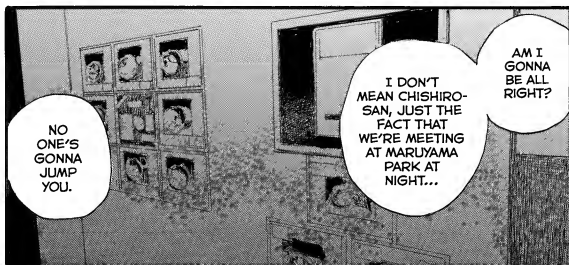


WOULD YOU
LIKE TO GRAB
SOMETHING
TO EAT WITH
ME?



TAKE CARE.
THAT MUST
BE ROUGH...

OH...
ALL
RIGHT.

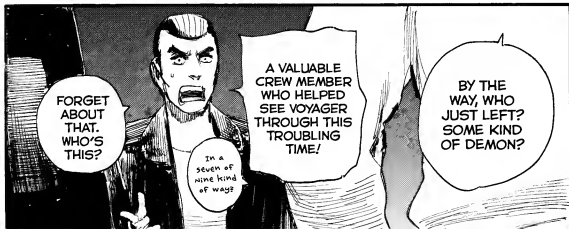


NO
ONE'S
GONNA
JUMP
YOU.

I DON'T
MEAN CHISHIRO-
SAN, JUST THE
FACT THAT
WE'RE MEETING
AT MARUYAMA
PARK AT
NIGHT...

AM I
GONNA
BE ALL
RIGHT?

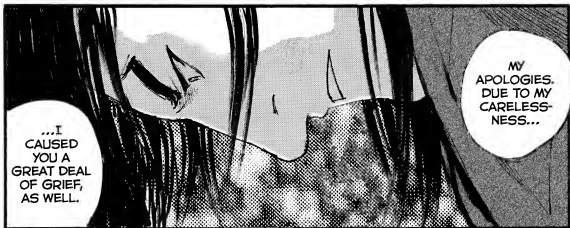






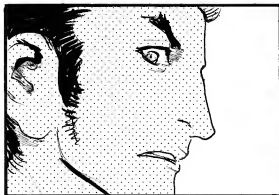
HUH?
THAT'S
RIGHT.

CHUUYA
NAKAHARA-
SAN, I
PRESUME?



...I
CAUSED
YOU A
GREAT DEAL
OF GRIEF,
AS WELL.

MY
APOLOGIES.
DUE TO MY
CARELESS-
NESS...



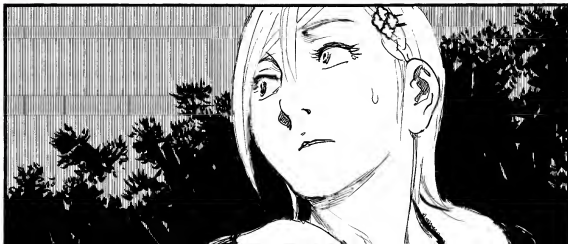
ARE
YOU BY
CHANCE
...?

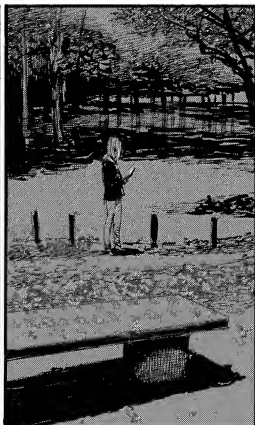
AH...



LET'S
GO HOME
BEFORE YOU
IMPOSE ANY
LONGER.

MAKIE.









AND CHEAP-CHEAP CUP SAKE, "A HIT WITH ADULTS SPENDING THE DAY AT THE CYCLING TRACK."

I HAVE A NON-ALCOHOLIC BEER FROM KYOI NO NODOGOSHI, "THE COLLECTION OF JAPAN'S FINEST BREWING PRACTICES."



SO YOU'RE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WOULD MAKE YOUR SENIOR DRINK CHEAP-CHEAP CUP SAKE, ARE YOU?

I SEE...



A tall boy of non-alcoholic beer.

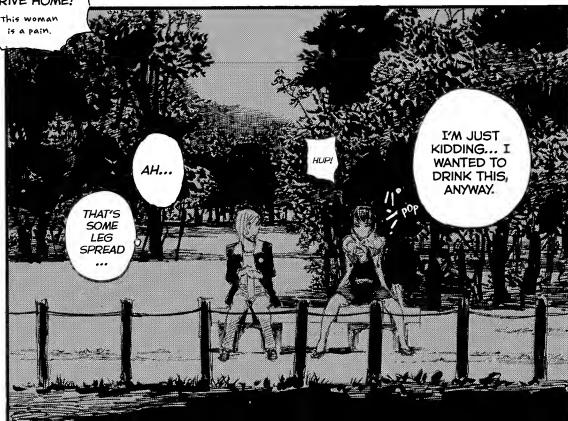
UHH...

I'M DRIVING.

I'LL GO WITH THE NON-ALCOHOLIC ONE.

NO, LIKE I SAID, IT'S BECAUSE I HAVE TO DRIVE HOME!

This woman is a pain.



AH...

THAT'S SOME LEG SPREAD ...

HUP!

I'M JUST KIDDING... I WANTED TO DRINK THIS, ANYWAY.



I'D HAVE TO BE PRETTY BROKEN AS A PERSON TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY WINE WHILE TALKING ABOUT THAT.

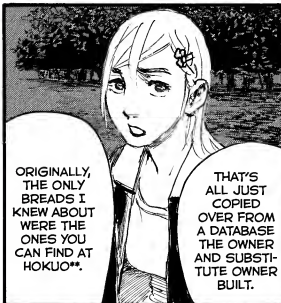
YOU SEEMED LIKE SOMEONE WHO'D ORDER A BOTTLE OF CHILEAN WINE OVER A PLATE OF ACQUA PAZZA AT A BAR...

...AND DRINK WHILE GOING ON ABOUT HOW THE ONLY THING KEEPING CHILEAN WINE PRICES DOWN ARE DUE TO THE FACT THAT VINEYARD WORKERS ARE PAID NEAR SLAVE WAGES.



Y'KNOW... YOU'RE NOT QUITE LIKE WHAT I IMAGINED.

OH?



ORIGINALLY, THE ONLY BREADS I KNEW ABOUT WERE THE ONES YOU CAN FIND AT HOKUO**.

THAT'S ALL JUST COPIED OVER FROM A DATABASE THE OWNER AND SUBSTITUTE OWNER BUILT.



80% OF THE TIMES I DRINK ALONE ARE AT YAKITORI* JOINTS.

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE...

...SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO CAN WRITE AN EXTENSIVE BLOG ABOUT BREADS I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD ABOUT IS MUCH MORE IMPRESSIVE.

**A BREAD STORE CHAIN.

*GRILLED CHICKEN ON A SKEWER.



WELL, IT'S GOOD TO BE STUDIOUS.

HA HA HA!

ISN'T THAT INSANE?

AND IT'S STILL 16 GIGABYTES BIG!

BY THE WAY, THAT DATABASE IS MADE UP ALMOST ENTIRELY OF TEXT.

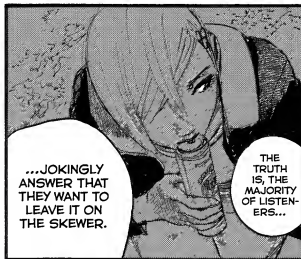




OF
COURSE
NOT, BUT
HUMOR ME
FOR A BIT.

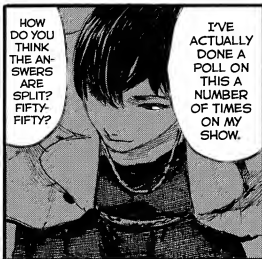
THE OTHERS
ARE PEOPLE
WHO DON'T
EAT THE RICE
WITH SUSHI,
AND PEOPLE
WHO PUT
MAYONNAISE
ON EVERY-
THING.

THERE ARE
THREE EATING
HABITS THAT
FILL ME WITH
THE DESIRE
TO KILL, AND
THAT'S ONE
OF THEM.



...JOKINGLY
ANSWER THAT
THEY WANT TO
LEAVE IT ON
THE SKEWER.

THE
TRUTH
IS, THE
MAJORITY
OF LISTEN-
ERS...



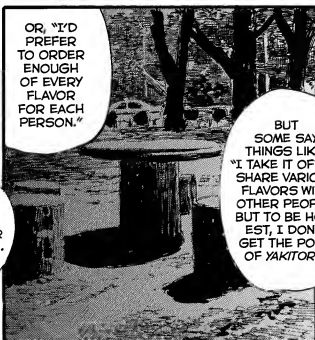
HOW
DO YOU
THINK
THE AN-
SWERS
ARE
SPLIT?
FIFTY-
FIFTY?

I'VE
ACTUALLY
DONE A
POLL ON
THIS A
NUMBER
OF TIMES
ON MY
SHOW.



...IF I ASK
WHAT THEY
THINK ABOUT
PEOPLE WHO
EAT THE CHICK-
EN STRAIGHT
OFF THE
SKEWER...

ON
THE
OTHER
HAND...



OR, "I'D
PREFER
TO ORDER
ENOUGH
OF EVERY
FLAVOR
FOR EACH
PERSON."

BUT
SOME SAY
THINGS LIKE,
"I TAKE IT OFF TO
SHARE VARIOUS
FLAVORS WITH
OTHER PEOPLE,
BUT TO BE HON-
EST, I DON'T
GET THE POINT
OF YAKITORI."



A MYST-
ERIOUS
RULE THAT
EVERYONE
WAS MUCH
BETTER
OFF NOT
FOLLOW-
ING...

IT'S
IRRITATING
TO WATCH
OTHER PEOPLE
IGNORE THE
HANDICAPS
WE WILLING-
LY ENFORCE
UPON OUR-
SELVES.



...OVER
HALF THE
LISTENERS
REPLY
WITH,

"THEY CAN'T
READ THE
MOOD," OR,
"I THINK
THEY'RE
SELFISH."



UH-HUH...

DON'T
YOU THINK
IT'S AN
INTEREST-
ING LITTLE
TALE OF
JAPANESE
CULTURE?

I MEAN, WHO
CARES IF A
LITTLE FOOD
GETS LEFT OVER
IF YOU ORDER
ENOUGH FOR
EVERYONE?



NOT
THAT.

I MEAN HOW
I SAID IT WAS
"INTERESTING."



YOU
MEAN
ABOUT
SKEWER
OR NO
SKEWER?!

HUH?!

REMEM-
BER THIS
CONVER-
SATION,
OKAY?





AFTERWORD

Greetings, everyone. How did you like this third volume of the off-the-rails occult curry radio manga *Wave, Listen to me?* Hm? Romance? That's got nothing to do with me. Am I really obligated to pump every volume full of love affairs? Think about Japan's birth rate. It's the lowest of every developed country, right? That makes me think you're all not as interested in love as you say you are! ...So, I checked Google, and while it appears birth rate numbers continue to drop, the total fertility rate (number of children a woman gives birth to in her life) has been slowly rising since 2005. Hmm. By the way, Hokkaido is #45 out of 47 on the list of prefectural fertility rates. The lowest being, of course, Tokyo. I see...well, what I'm trying to say, everyone, is "Wikipedia sure is neat, huh?" Oh, yes. Speaking of Hokkaido, you might remember how in the last volume's afterword I mentioned that I changed my abbreviation of Seico Mart from Seico to Seicoma after being corrected by readers, then received mail from other readers saying it's actually Secoma. Well, apparently, the parent company of Seico Mart officially made the abbreviation Secoma recently. Upon further research, in addition to Seicoma and Secoma, I found other uncommon abbreviations including "Seima" and "Mart." Mart, huh? Well, see you again in volume four. Hiroaki Samura

Wave, Listen to Me! 3

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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